

THE ATHENÆUM

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No. 3115.

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1887.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION for the ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, 22, Albemarle-street, London, W.

THE NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at MANCHESTER, commencing on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31.

President: Sir H. B. RUSCOE, M.P., LL.D., D.C.L., Ph.D., F.R.S., V.P.C.S.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS OF MEMOIRS.—Authors—Authors should send their contributions to the Secretary, the acceptance of Memos, and the days on which they are to be read, may be ascertained, determined by Organizing Committee for the several Sections before the beginning of the Meeting. It has therefore become necessary, in order to give an opportunity to the Committee of doing justice to the several Committees, that each Author should prepare an Abstract of his Memoir of a length sufficient to give a clear idea of the objects and actions of the Association, and the Council request that he will send it, together with the original Memoir, by post, on or before August 3, addressed thus:—“General Secretaries, British Association, 22, Albemarle-street, London, W.” For Section.—Authors who comply with the above, and whose papers are accepted, will be invited to read them at the Meeting, with related copies of their Reports or Abstracts. If it should be inconvenient to the Author that his Paper should be read on any particular day, he is requested to send information thereto to the Secretaries in a separate note.

REPORTS on the Progress of Science, and of Researches entrusted to Individuals or Committees, must be forwarded to the Secretaries, for presentation to the Organizing Committee, with a statement whether the Author will be present at the Annual Meeting.

No Report, Paper, or Abstract can be inserted in the Report of the Association unless it is in the hands of the Secretary before the conclusion of the Meeting.

A. T. ATCHISON, Secretary.

INSTITUTION OF NAVAL ARCHITECTS.

A SUMMER MEETING of the above Institution will be held at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on TUESDAY, July 29th, and THURSDAY, July 31st, and at Sunderland, on WEDNESDAY, July 30th.

The Meetings will take place each morning at 10 A.M. Papers of professional interest will be read and discussed, and Excursions will be made to places of interest in the neighbourhood.

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LITERATURE

Memoirs of Wilhelmine, Margravine of Baireuth. Translated and edited by H.R.H. Princess Christian of Schleswig Holstein. With Portrait. (Stott.)

The 'Memoirs' of the Margravine of Baireuth were not given to the world for many years after her death, which took place in 1758. In 1810 a German translation appeared at Tübingen, and soon afterwards, in the same year, the original French text was published at Brunswick. The book attracted much attention, and profoundly modified the opinions which had been current as to the condition of the Prussian Court during a part of the first half of the eighteenth century. All the world had known that the Margravine's father, Frederick William I. of Prussia, was a man of rude manners and violent temper; but here he was presented as a sort of brutal ruffian who spent much of his time in wantonly destroying the happiness of his family. He did not even, we are told, allow his children to have proper food, and on one occasion, when he had an attack of gout, the Princess and her brother Frederick (Frederick the Great) were compelled to take their meals by his bedside. Says the Margravine:—

"To torment us still more, he let us have only those things to eat for which we had an absolute dislike. But good or bad, we were obliged to swallow them down, and run the risk of being ill for the rest of the day. Not a single day passed without some unfortunate occurrence, and we could not lift up our eyes without beholding some unhappy being who was being tormented. The king was of too impatient a nature to remain long in bed, so he sat in an armchair, in which he had himself wheeled about the castle. He held a crutch in each hand to support himself, and we followed this triumphal car like wretched prisoners expecting their sentence."

Rendered miserable by "the ill usage he received from the king," Frederick, according to the Margravine, said to her:—

"I am perpetually being told to have patience, but no one knows what I have to endure. I am treated like a slave, am beaten every day, and have no relaxation of any kind. I am forbidden to read, to study the sciences or music, and am scarcely allowed to speak to anybody. My life is in perpetual danger, I am surrounded by spies, I have not even enough clothes, and am wanting in most other necessities of life; but the last terrible scene with the king at Potsdam

has quite overcome me. He sent for me one morning. As soon as I entered the room he seized me by my hair and threw me on the ground. After having beaten me with his fists, he dragged me to the window, and tied the cord, which fastened back the curtain, round my throat. I had, fortunately, time to get up and seize hold of his hands, but as he pulled with all his might at the cord round my throat, I felt I was being strangled, and screamed for help. A page rushed in to my assistance, and had to use force in freeing me from my father's hands."

If we may believe the Margravine, Frederick William I. could be as cruel to his wife as to his children. At the time of the birth of one of his daughters he was absent from Berlin. On the day of his return he passed through the queen's room "without saying a word to her," and at dinner "he was very silent and thoughtful." After dinner "he again passed through her room without taking any notice of her."

"She called him back to her bedside in the tenderest manner, but the only answer she received was a perfect flood of abuse, accusations, and insults with respect to the birth of this child, ending with a charge of having been unfaithful to him. She had not expected such treatment, for her conduct was at all times most exemplary, so that even the worst slander could not touch her. The answers she gave the king only enraged him more, and had he not been compelled by the Mistress of the Robes to leave the room there is no knowing what he might have done."

The queen does not appear in quite so unfavourable a light, but she is presented as a hard, selfish, and intriguing woman, always ready to sacrifice the welfare of her children to the promotion of her own ambitious schemes. After the death of her husband she shed "many tears," but the Margravine does not know "whether they were sincere or false." In the early part of the 'Memoirs' the Margravine gives a very flattering account of her brother Frederick; but as the work advances she has many a tale to tell to his disadvantage. And she is careful to quote the estimate of his character formed by her doctor, Superville, who "was a great favourite with my brother, and shared in all his social pursuits." If he is not maligned, this worthy said to the Margravine:—

"I cannot deny that the Crown Prince is most kindly inclined towards me, but I have had time to study his character closely. The prince has great understanding, but a bad heart: he is suspicious, ungrateful, and vicious, and I am much mistaken if he will not in time become more avaricious than the king his father is at the present moment. He has no religion, and his morality is of his own making."

Of all the prominent persons who appear in this book the only one who plays a worthy part is the Margravine herself. She never commits an important mistake, and all her wrongs and sufferings she bears with the heroism of a martyr. Occasionally she even breaks into expressions of love and admiration for the father, mother, and brother against whom she has so many accusations to bring. These expressions do not, of course, cause the objects of them to seem less odious—they only complete the picture which the Margravine has drawn of her own noble qualities.

Is the book trustworthy? This question the Princess Christian answers unhesitatingly in the affirmative. "Modern critics," she says,

"have accused Wilhelmine of historical inaccuracies in her Memoirs, but after making allowance for some exaggeration in her accounts and views of people and of circumstances, they have never dared to doubt the general veracity of the whole narrative."

The truth is, however, that "modern critics" have not only "dared to doubt" what the Princess Christian calls "the general veracity of the whole narrative," but have held that from the point of view of history the work is absolutely worthless. This is the decision of Droysen, who has a better right than any one else to an opinion on the subject; and a like judgment was expressed by Ranke.

The Princess Christian makes no reference to the fact that there are eight manuscript versions of the 'Memoirs,' one (the Brunswick manuscript) in the Margravine's handwriting, the rest copies from other original versions. The earliest of these eight versions is the one from which the Tübingen translation was made. It brings the narrative down to 1733, and seems to have been written in 1739. Afterwards the Margravine returned from time to time to her task, not only continuing the story, but going back to the work she had done and modifying it to suit her altered moods. Hence there are wide differences between the various manuscripts, especially between the Tübingen manuscript and the Brunswick one, which is the latest. For instance, in one of the passages we have quoted Frederick is represented as saying, "He dragged me to the window and tied the cord, which fastened back the curtain, round my throat." This is in accordance with the Tübingen manuscript. In the Brunswick manuscript a much stronger expression is attributed to the Crown Prince. "Il prétendit," he is there made to say, "me rendre là l'office dont sont chargés les muets du sérial." In another passage translated by the Princess Christian the queen is described as begging the king to give her a costly pair of diamond earrings. He grants the request, whereupon Grumkow resolves to tell him that the queen had merely wished to obtain the means of paying her debts. According to the Brunswick version Grumkow's story was that the queen had actually pawned the earrings, and that her debts were debts contracted at the gaming-table. Much importance is ascribed to a paper which Frederick William I. is said to have written for the guidance of three generals whom he sent with a peremptory message to the queen; and to two letters written by the Crown Prince, one to his sister, and one to the English Envoy, Hotham. All these documents are presented in different forms in different versions, so that we are forced to conclude either that they existed only in the Margravine's imagination, or that she had a very strange conception of the proper functions of an historian in the treatment of original papers. There are many other variations in her story, and they alone, even if nothing else excited suspicion, would suffice to raise a doubt as to the writer's "general veracity."

But much evidence of another kind points in the same direction, for in some instances we are able to compare the Margravine's statements with her own letters and other

documents, and her narrative, when tried by this test, invariably breaks down. She tells a wonderful tale about a mission of M. de la Motte in the year 1729, while the negotiations about her proposed marriage with the Prince of Wales were going on. He was sent, we are told, from Hanover to announce that the prince would secretly go to Berlin and marry the princess. The queen gossiped about the matter, and the news was hastily dispatched to George II., who at once recalled the prince. Then there seemed to be little chance that the marriage would ever take place. We know, however, that an order for the return of the Prince of Wales from Hanover had been sent from London in November of the previous year, and that it had nothing whatever to do with any scheme of his for a secret marriage, but was due to the demands of political parties in England. Moreover, the negotiations were continued for some time with every prospect of success, although they were afterwards interrupted by causes to which the Margravine does not allude.

Some time after her marriage with the Margrave of Baireuth she visited Berlin; and she gives a dismal account of the reception accorded to her, and of her father's cruelty in taunting her with her poverty. Letters which she wrote to her brother at this very time have been preserved, and in them she speaks, with obvious sincerity, of her happiness, and especially of her father's generosity. She gives two letters which, she says, were written when the old king was dying. In the one which she herself professes to have written she tells her brother that she wishes to visit her father, and asks his advice. In the one attributed to the Crown Prince he replies that she would be "received like a dog," and he begs her to remain at Baireuth and amuse herself, and not to dream of "coming to a hell where you hear only groans and cries, and where every one is ill used." It happens that the correspondence which passed between Frederick and his sister on this occasion still exists, and it bears not the faintest resemblance to the letters in the 'Memoirs.' These letters she must have deliberately manufactured in order to give an unpleasant impression of her brother's character.

She complains that after the accession of Frederick II. she wrote to him by every post, that for six weeks she did not receive a single reply, and that when an answer did come it was only signed by the king. As a matter of fact, Frederick's published correspondence includes seven letters which he wrote to her in the course of those weeks. She pretends that when he visited her at Baireuth he was very cold to her, and openly showed that he had more regard for her sister. But among Frederick's papers was a letter which she wrote to him immediately after his visit, thanking him in most affectionate terms for his kindness, and assuring him that she and her husband regarded him "as a father." The Margrave concluded a treaty with the Emperor Charles VII., and the Margravine asserts that Frederick, bitterly resenting this manifestation of an independent spirit, wrote that her husband had no right to enter into such engagements without consulting him. The consequence was, she adds, that the

Margrave caused her to write to his dictation a letter in which he indignantly repudiated Frederick's pretensions. This document has never been found, and it may be doubted whether it ever existed, for in the letters actually written by Frederick, the publication of which the Margravine did not foresee, there is not the slightest ground for her charges. He expressly acknowledges that the Margrave is "his own master," and regrets the conclusion of the treaty merely because it may bring trouble upon the Margrave himself and upon his principality.

These are only specimens of the Margravine's misrepresentations. Any one who may wish to pursue the subject further will find an ample store of facts in the elaborate essay which Droysen has devoted to it, and in a paper included in the first series of Ranke's 'Abhandlungen und Versuche.' That the Margravine had a touch of genius cannot be disputed. Her style is remarkably fresh and bright, and she knew how to make lively and dramatic "scenes" out of most unpromising materials. But she was vain and unscrupulous, and could not resist the temptation to display her own talents at the expense of even her nearest kinsfolk, to whose reputation she did incalculable injury. When she began her 'Memoirs' she was very happy, and probably intended merely to write an amusing book. Afterwards she was embittered by domestic troubles and by political mistakes, which for a time estranged her from her brother. Then her ideas as to the facts of her past life became more and more distorted, and in her 'Memoirs' she gave free expression to the resentment excited by her real or supposed grievances. In matters about which we have independent knowledge we so often find her inaccurate that it is impossible to accept statements for which she is the only authority. The utmost that can be said for such statements is that we do not know whether they are true or false.

The Princess Christian has done her work as a translator carefully, and no fault can be found with her for having omitted certain passages which do more credit to the Margravine's cleverness than to her good taste. Whether it was worth the princess's while to translate a book to which no historical importance can be attached is another question. Certainly she ought not to have undertaken the task without thoroughly examining the evidence as to the value of the work which had excited her interest. It would have been of advantage, too, if she had submitted her preface to some one who had a little knowledge of the relations of Frederick the Great to the intellectual movements of his own day in Germany. Had this been done, she would scarcely have committed herself to the statement that

"he encouraged the most gifted of German writers to gather at his Court, where his rare mental gifts, his sound good sense, and his grand patriotism exercised the most beneficial influence on letters and civilization."

Frederick the Great had the deepest contempt for German writers, and no more thought of encouraging them "to gather at his Court" than of offering to associate them with him in the responsibilities of government.

HUGO'S DIARY.

Choses Vues. Par Victor Hugo. (Paris, Quantin.)
Things Seen. By Victor Hugo. 2 vols. (Routledge & Sons.)

The new volume of Victor Hugo—'Choses Vues,' as it is called—is a pleasant surprise. All his life long the great poet was addicted to attitude; all his life long he was a *poseur* of the first magnitude. He seems to have considered the affectation of superiority an essential quality in art; for just as the cock in Mrs. Poyser's apothegm believed that the sun got up to hear him crow, so to the bard of the 'Légende' and the 'Contemplations' it must have seemed that the human race existed but to listen to the use he made of his "oracular tongue." How tremendous his utterances sometimes were—informed with what majesty, yet with what brilliance—is one of the things that every schoolboy knows. One no more needs to insist upon the incomparable merits of his best manner than to recall from oblivion the faults of his worst. At his best as at his worst, however, he was always an artist in his way. His speech was nothing if not artificial—in the good sense of the word sometimes, and sometimes in the bad. Simplicity (it seemed) was impossible to him. In the quest of expression, the cult of antithesis, the pursuit of effect, he sacrificed directness and plainness with not less consistency than placidity. In that tissue of "apocalyptic epigram" which to him was style there was no room for quiet and sobriety. His Patmos was a place of mirrors, and before them he draped himself in his phrases, like Frédéric in the mantle of Ruy Blas. That this grandiosity was unnatural and unreal is proved to admiration by the publication of 'Choses Vues.' When Hugo wrote for himself, he wrote almost as simply and straightforwardly as Alexandre Dumas. The effect is disconcerting. One rubs one's eyes in amazement. It is evidently Hugo. But Hugo plain, sober, direct? Hugo without rhetoric? Hugo declining antithesis and content to be no gaudier than his neighbours? Hugo expressing himself in the fearless old fashion of pre-romantic ages? A page of commonplace from Mr. Meredith, a book for boarding-schools by M. Émile Zola, were not more startling.

The first chapter in 'Choses Vues' was written in 1838; it treats of a gruesome legend that attaches to Talleyrand's deathbed. The last, the most Hugo-esque of all, is dated 1875; it consists of a string of names and some effects in antithesis. Between these two entries are the stories, from personal observation, of more incidents than we can enumerate. In 1839 the poet saw the émeute from the point of view of somebody in the street; he was alert, observant, just to both sides; and his record is a document for the historian, and a page of good French into the bargain. In 1840 the ashes of Napoleon were transferred from St. Helena to the Invalides; and Hugo's account of the ceremony is not only as curious and as entertaining as Thackeray's, but, having less of prejudice, may be safely set down as more dispassionate and more veracious. Under the heading "1842" we get a good note on Fieschi, some seven or

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eight pages on the death of the Duke d'Orléans, and the story of a weird, yet very natural dream. The "Villemain" of 1845 is a depressing picture: it paints the poor old monomaniac to the life, and is none the less moving for the presence of details which an English diarist would not, it may be, have ventured to set down. The next year is that of the "attempts" of Henri and Lecomte; of an interesting note on the madman Mortier; of an admirable chapter on the Conciergerie; and of a "Soirée chez M. Guizot," which shows the poet posing as a politician, and not more unsuccessful than usual. Among the memoranda of 1847 are some excellent and curious notes on the crime and suicide of the Duke de Praslin; a graphic description of the trial (for peculation and corruption) of MM. Teste and Cubières; a very striking chapter on the condemned cell and a criminal, "le nommé Marquis," confined therein; and a pleasant report of a little walk with Béranger. The flight of Louis Philippe is brilliantly told under "1848"; and under "1849," with a good note on Chancellor Pasquier, are a study "D'après Nature," which reads like M. de Maupassant in the rough, and the record of a visit paid to the diarist by Mdlle. Georges, which for interest and vitality is not to be excelled. The deathbed and funeral of Balzac are horribly well described (1850); and the chapter called "L'Espion Hubert" (1853) has all the vigour, the directness, the graphic and the moving quality of good romantic literature. Of "Thiers et Rochefort" (1871) and "Tapner" (1858) we need only remark that both are eminently readable, and that neither need be taken too seriously. It is enough for Hugo's immortality that "à ses heures" he was an incomparable literary artist. The sooner it is forgotten that he was also a politician the better, we take it, for his fame and our own peace of mind.

Nobody who can read 'Choses Vues' is likely to read 'Things Seen.' Between Hugo's French and translator's English there is a great gulf fixed; and none that can cope with the one will waste his time upon the other. As, however, the fact of publication makes it evident that there exists a public to whom the real Hugo is a sealed book, it may be noted in this place that the translator of 'Choses Vues' has done his work with accuracy and a certain spirit, and that 'Things Seen,' so far as we have tried it—wherever we have tapped it were perhaps the truer phrase—is by no means uninteresting or unreadable.

Fragments of Philo Judæus. Newly edited by J. Rendel Harris, M.A. With two Facsimiles. (Cambridge, University Press.)

The main work of this book is well done, and the author deserves hearty commendation; but the preface and introduction produce a bad impression. In them too much is said of the author's intentions, and, short though the introduction be, portions of it ought to have been struck out. Thus on p. ix the reader is favoured with various conjectures in regard to the locality in which the Codex Rupefucaldinus now is and on the peculiarities of that manuscript; and then the writer says that he had received information that it belonged to the collection of Sir

Thomas Phillipps, and is now in Cheltenham. He adds: "A charge of one pound per diem is made to all persons who collate in this library, and this renders prolonged or careful study impossible for the majority of scholars: one can hardly say that it makes the books accessible to any." After writing as far as p. xx, he tells us he undertook an expedition to Cheltenham to verify his suppositions, and spent four days over the manuscript, which he describes minutely. And among other things he says: "So valuable and complete (with the exception noted) is this MS., that if it had crossed my path earlier, I should have made it the basis of almost all my subsequent work." Now it is difficult for an ordinary mortal to see why Mr. Harris wrote at all before he had verified his suppositions, and why he committed his work to print before examining a MS. which turned out to be, in his opinion, the best that could be got.

Another singularity appears in the title of the introduction. It is said to be "on Cod. Reg. 923 of the National Library at Paris." Mr. Harris certainly devotes some space to an account of this MS., saying that it is "apparently unpublished," and supplies us with two interesting facsimiles of portions of it. But he soon digresses, and when he returns to the subject he informs us that after his examination of the MS. he discovered that M. l'Abbé Martin had just published an account of it. He also informs us that "two fragments of Justin were extracted from Cod. Reg. by the Benedictine editor of Justin (Fragg. x., xv. of Otto)." So that after all the Cod. Reg. 923 was not altogether unknown. By the way, we may remark that in the last passage quoted Mr. Harris should have referred to the third edition of Otto's 'Justin,' for there he would have found that there were three fragments extracted from the Codex Regius, the vi., xi., and xiv. In fact, Mr. Harris has proceeded without method in his introduction, and has given expression to thoughts which were merely floating about in his mind, but had not taken fixed shape.

The real work, however, which Mr. Harris presents to his readers is of genuine value, so far as it goes. The 'Parallels' of John of Damascus contain a large number of extracts from the early Christian writers and from Philo and Josephus. The last critical edition of this work was published in 1712, which Migne has republished, with additions, in his series. But the editor, Michael Le Quien, did not use all the MSS. that were at his command, and some existed of which he was ignorant. There is much room, therefore, for a new edition of the 'Parallels.' The task is one of great importance, as many of the extracts made by John throw much light on the opinions of early Christian writers. The Codex Regius 923 is one of the MSS. which would have to be carefully collated for this new edition, and the perusal of it led Mr. Harris to inquire into the other MSS. which contain the 'Parallels.' The introduction furnishes an irregular, but suggestive account of these. But it struck Mr. Harris that the public did not care for a new edition of the 'Parallels,' and so he gave up the idea of printing all that he had collected from the Cod. Reg. 923 or of editing the 'Parallels.' And thus he fell on a new idea. The extracts of John which most interest

the public are those from the early fathers. Mr. Harris entertains the idea of editing these; but he has a special affection for Philo. He thinks (and we agree with him) that that writer is not estimated at his real worth, and that his treatises have not been studied with the care which they deserve; so he resolved to collate all the extracts made by John from Philo and to print them first. But this task led to another. It was necessary not only to collate, but to verify the ascription to Philo, and to identify the passages as belonging either to works still extant or to lost treatises. And having begun this work Mr. Harris naturally went on to examine all the fragments of Philo wherever they were to be found, and to endeavour to identify these. Accordingly he has prepared an edition of all the fragments which he has as yet found, sifted them with care, assigned them, when possible, to their books, and indicated the sources from which he has derived them. He has done this work admirably, with great skill and knowledge, and with an affection for his author which it is pleasant to see. He says truly in the commencement of his preface: "This little book may perhaps be described most succinctly as scaffolding for the next edition of Philo." The last critical edition of Philo was published in 1742. There are ample materials for a new recension, and much need for it. Mr. Harris makes a valuable contribution to this work.

Leaves from my Chinese Scrap-Book. By Frederic Henry Balfour. (Trübner & Co.)

MR. BALFOUR is well known as a writer on Chinese matters. He has translated with more or less success several Taoist works, and in the volume before us he gives us some chips from his Chinese workshop. We frankly admit that we prefer his chips to the more elaborate pieces of work which he turns out. There is a want of accurate skill in the transformation of the raw Chinese material into his English finished articles which detracts from their value, but his chips are as good as those of the most adept workman, and his present collection contains much that will interest a wider public than that which commonly concerns itself with Chinese affairs.

The first chapter contains a sketch of the history of the man who is notorious in Chinese annals as having been the first to weld the conglomerate Chinese states into an empire, as having burnt the existing books, and as having built the seventh wonder of the world, the great wall. The whole story is a weird one of the 'Arabian Nights' type, and contains every element of romance. It shows us how kings and thrones were made the sport of favourites; how a pedlar became, by intrigue, crime, and bribery, the father of a king; and lastly how the monarch who had raised himself to the height of earthly grandeur died away from home, a prey to superstitious terror and the fear of assassination.

In striking contrast to the career of the first emperor is that of the present Empress Regent, who, though not called upon to strike out any new and heroic line of policy, has yet succeeded in steering the ship of state with safety and honour through many and

great dangers. This lady was a concubine of the Emperor Hien-fung, and was the mother of the late Emperor T'ung-chi, on whose death the regency was vested in herself and the Dowager Empress. By one of those intrigues which make the history of Oriental courts, T'ung-chi's widow, who was *enceinte* at the time of her husband's death, was set aside, and passed away before her child was born. With equal consideration the Dowager Empress also suddenly died, and the titular Dowager Empress Tz'u-hei was thus left in undisputed possession of power. With unusual ability she has guided the policy of the empire through the troublous times which have resulted from the opening up of the country to foreign trade, and has so conducted affairs as to have brought the nation to an infinitely higher degree of prosperity and tranquillity than it enjoyed when she took over the reins.

So much secrecy is observed in all matters relating to the imperial family, and especially to the lady members of it, that they have to pay the penalty belonging to mystery of being the objects of persistent gossip. Mr. Balfour reproduces some of the *on dit* in which the tattlers of the Peking streets delight. He makes no intimation of any want of faith in the reports he repeats, and even bravely chronicles the following statement, which bears on the face of it abundant cause for incredulity :—

" So thoroughly is she [the Empress Regent] said to throw off the restraints of royalty as to practise archery, and is even reported to have taken lessons in boxing, attired in a sort of bloomer costume, from an old eunuch..... Her appearance at the age of fifty, in short skirts, hitting out at her venerable preceptor, and, we presume, occasionally receiving punishment herself, must, to say the least of it, cause some scandal to the strait-laced censors, who recently remonstrated with her on the undue smartness of her headdress."

The question whether filial piety as practised in China is a blessing or a curse to the country has lately been much discussed by the foreign residents in that country, and in the present volume Mr. Balfour devotes a chapter to an attempt to demonstrate that it is a curse. In this it is difficult to agree with him. The self-restraint, respect for age, and reverence for authority implied and inculcated by the ceremonial observances connected with the virtue, have a far more beneficial influence on the nation at large than can be nullified by the effect of the rare instances of parental cruelty which disgrace individuals. Without going the full length with those who see in the long history of China a fulfilment of the promise contained in the fifth commandment, we are undoubtedly of opinion that the practice of filial piety has helped to prolong the life of the nation by educating the people to submit to discipline and to lend a willing ear to the voice of authority.

Mr. Balfour's chapters on the Taoist philosopher Lieh-tsze, on tree and serpent worship, and on the legendary lore of China are decidedly interesting and will well repay perusal.

The Divina Commedia of Dante Alighieri.
Translated Line for Line, in the Terza Rima of the Original, by F. K. H. Haselfoot. (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.)
Dante's Divina Commedia: its Scope and Value.
From the German of Franz Hettinger. Edited by H. S. Bowden. (Burns & Oates.)

It really is not our fault if translations of, and commentaries on, the 'Divine Comedy' have to be brought to the notice of our readers once a month or so. When they are hopelessly bad they can be ignored ; "why," as the late Canon Kingsley somewhere says, "try to earn a little credit by depicting the weakness of" a fellow student ? Perhaps when Dante is read like Homer impostors will arise, against whom it will be necessary to caution beginners ; but at present, as no great amount of either fame or money is to be earned in this branch of learning, it may be taken for granted that a genuine, if sometimes misdirected enthusiasm has been the sole motive for the production of all the "Studies," "Introductions," and translations, for which the world was not precisely clamouring. But there comes now and again a volume which under any circumstances would require notice, on account either of intrinsic merit or some element of novelty ; and to these classes the two books before us unmistakably belong. Mr. Haselfoot's rendering in *terza rima* is the least unsuccessful which has yet been printed ; and Father Bowden's translation of Dr. Hettinger's work on the scope and value of the poem introduces to English readers almost the only recent attempt by a Roman Catholic to appreciate the greatest utterance of mediæval Catholicism. It may be noted here that if the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, who has "designed to commend" Father Bowden's work, will extend his inquiries a little further, he will find that at least one member of his Church more than he thinks has deserved well of Dante students. "Excepting Ozanam's beautiful 'Dante et la Philosophie Chrétienne,'" he writes, "I know of no Catholic who has in our time made a translation or a comment on Dante." Why he should except Ozanam, whose book is not a translation, and hardly a comment in the ordinary sense of the term, is not quite clear ; but surely the late King of Saxony—who did make both a translation and a comment, each excellent of its kind—was a good enough Catholic. Perhaps Father Bowden did not think it seemly to enlighten his superior, even in a foot-note. But as will appear, he has himself hardly that familiarity either with Dante or with commentators on Dante which his work demanded.

To revert to Mr. Haselfoot. We have said that his translation is the least unsuccessful of its kind which we have seen. This may seem grudging praise ; but we have so often expressed our views upon the attempt to naturalize the *terza rima* in English, that our readers will hardly expect us to say more. We do not know to whom Mr. Haselfoot refers when he says, "Dante's great work must be rendered, we are told, in prose only." For us Cary is, and remains, *facile princeps* among translators. If a rhymed version is to be made, *terza rima*,

as keeping at least the structure of the poem, is probably preferable to any arrangement in stanzas. But the fatal objection to *terza rima* lies in what Mr. Haselfoot rightly terms "the impossibility to produce in English the sweet cadences of the polysyllabic rhymes of the Italian." This alone renders English *terza rima* a totally different measure from Dante's *terza rima*. If then Dante's own rhythm cannot be reproduced, surely it is best to recast the poem into the form which Milton has once for all made the noblest form for epic poetry in English. Mr. Haselfoot claims, and it would seem justly, to "have spared no pains in order to exclude every rhyme which was not thoroughly legitimate." Yet even so he has had to make "Gaia" rhyme with "nigher," "Leah" with "near," and "esse" with "less be." Still his success with his rhymes is, on the whole, remarkable, though in order to succeed he has had more than once to forfeit his claim to "line for line" rendering. We may instance, almost at random :—

Towards Spain, Dyrhachium next, its serried might
Was turned ; and hot Nile's distant boundary
Could feel its blows upon Pharsalia smite.

Here Dyrhachium and Pharsalia have been shifted from the second line to the first and third respectively, and Nile from the third to the second, while the "distant boundary" has been brought in from nowhere in particular. When it has been added that here and there the flow of the verse is interrupted by a rough line, like

Bared his feet, and in quest of such peace hied,
and that just once or twice the right meaning
seems to have been missed—as where
"lo scemo della luna" is rendered by "the
moon's darkened limb" (which is just what
it is not, being, of course, the diminished
bright part), or "purblind" is put for
"biece" in 'Par.' vi. 136—all has been
done that it is possible to do in the way
of finding fault. To exhaust the merits of
Mr. Haselfoot's version would be more difficult.
Its ease and accuracy of rendering
and choice of language would do credit even
to "parole sciolti." Passages to illustrate
this statement may be found on every page.
The following, from the end of 'Par.' xi.,
will serve as well as any :—

Consider now what kind of man was he,
Who was meet colleague to maintain the bark
Of Peter in right course on the high sea.
And this is he who was our Patriarch ;
Whence whoso follows what he bids him do,
Lades merchandise, thou see'st, of godly mark.
But his flock hungers now for viands new,

So strongly, that it needs must take concern
In seeking for strange brakes to wander through.
And as his sheep for paths remoter yearn,
And wander further from his guiding call,
More void of milk they from the fold return.

Some, truly, fearing harm that may befall,
Cleave to the shepherd ; but so few we find.
That scant cloth furnishes the cloaks of all.
Now if my words are of no feeble kind,
If thou hast been on listening intent,
If thou recall'st what I have said to mind,
Thy wishes will be partially content ;

Since thou wilt see the plant whence chips are
polled,

Wilt see, too, the reproof by those words meant

Where those grow sleek who 'scape from vain

things' hold.

It is open to discussion whether the right reading has been taken in the penultimate line ; but that does not affect the general quality of the rendering, which most readers will probably agree is excellent.

The notes, which follow each canto, are "explanatory rather than critical or philosophical." Mr. Haselfoot does not as a rule discuss disputed readings, or enter deeply into the philosophy or the allegory of the poem. For the purpose which he has in view, namely, making the allusions clear to English readers, his notes are just what they should be—compendious, intelligible, and intelligent. Of course, at this time of day it is practically impossible to find anything new to say in a commentary of this kind; the wisdom of the commentator is shown in the selection he makes from what his predecessors have said. Sometimes they want verifying, as when they persist in calling the "Brisso" of "Par." xiii. 125 "Brissus," whereas a reference to Aristotle would show that he should be "Bryson." Mr. Haselfoot has fallen into this trap. Also he has followed a multitude when he makes the ascent from Purgatory to Paradise take place at sunrise. Nothing can be plainer than Dante's words, "Tutto era là bianco quell' emisperio," "All that hemisphere [*i.e.*, that of which Purgatory is the middle] was bright"; therefore it must have been noon. And this agrees with the time as indicated at the end of the 'Purgatory,' unless we are to suppose an afternoon and night passed in doing nothing. The further discussion of this may wait till the Dante Society of London is formed and its journal started. On the whole, nothing could be better than Mr. Haselfoot's notes; but he should not make Horace say, "et *altæ* graviore casu," &c.

Dr. Hettinger's treatise is, as has been said, interesting chiefly as an attempt by a Roman Catholic theologian to estimate Dante's place in theology. This has naturally been a somewhat difficult matter to settle. It was clearly impossible to ban so orthodox an expounder of the chief articles of the faith, while at the same time his attitude towards the Papacy as a political institution was not all that could be desired by those who identified the temporal with the spiritual power. So the 'De Monarchia' was put on the Index, for the exquisite reason that it was, in Father Bowden's words, "a work which would be dangerous in the hands of the enemies of the Church." A policy which forbids your own side to know what weapons the enemy is likely to use may be sportsmanlike, but is hardly the height of strategy. Further, certain passages in the 'Commedia,' in which the occupants of St. Peter's chair were roughly handled, were ordered to be expunged in all copies that came within reach of the Spanish Inquisition; and Landino's edition was prohibited, on account of an incautious note of that worthy commentator's. The chief result of this was that only three editions of the poem bear any date beginning with 16—. Anyhow, the conflict between Dante's undoubted orthodoxy on the main points and his unsound views on the more political side of the Roman allegiance had to be accounted for; and Dr. Hettinger proposes to do it by supposing him to have "completely overlooked the historical development both of the Empire and the Papacy," to have "identified the Empire of Charlemagne with that of Trajan and Justinian," and to have "ignored the fact that the Empire was the

creation of the Popes." We should have thought that if one thing was more certain than another, it was that Leo, Charlemagne, and everybody else concerned, held Carolus Augustus to be the lawful successor of Caesar Augustus, and saw in the retransfer of the imperial crown from the East to the West nothing but a change in the incumbent of an already existing office. The fact that "the new Empire was regarded by Dante's contemporaries as the creation of the Church and dependent on her," is not to the point. Of course it was so regarded by some of his contemporaries, and it was in opposition to them that the 'De Monarchia' was written; but litigants must not be quoted as authorities on the point in dispute. Dante's opinion is just as good as that of Gervase of Tilbury. However, here as elsewhere, "dogma" and history must be left to fight it out. In the main, Dr. Hettinger's book is a useful study of the 'Commedia,' somewhat in the style of Miss Rossetti's, but naturally more learned. He has plenty of admiration for Dante when he can get away from his theory of the Empire.

Father Bowden has done well in introducing Dr. Hettinger's work to English readers, but he has apparently not prepared himself for the task by a thorough study of Dante. He seems to think that Ottimo was a person; at least, he makes his author speak of "the commentary of Ottimo." He gives us a strange suggestion of a party consisting of "Giovanni da Serravalle, G. Villani, and Dante" making a tour in France together. This probably results from a misplaced "and." He says, in direct contradiction to Dante, that "heresy and infidelity come from a desire to measure human by divine justice"—a thing which Dante, in the person of Beatrice, expressly says is "non d'eretica nequiza." Lastly, he makes a statement which the most elementary student ought to know to be incorrect when he says that Dante terms his poem "Divine." He might have learnt better than this from the very work he translates. "The title of 'Divine,'" says Dr. Hettinger, "was added by posterity." Whether author or translator is responsible for "Roma caput mundi regit frena orbis rotundi" does not appear. The German ear for Latin metre is not good, but Father Bowden had, we believe, an English classical education. The only other remark we need make is that in a book for English readers it would have been kinder to write "Zephaniah" than "Sophonias." "Ezechias" on p. 232 for "Ezekiel" is a wanton mystification, for Dante in the passage referred to has "Ezechiel" plain enough. But in any case there is surely no article of faith which requires the adoption of the orthography of the Vulgate. Or must all good Catholics call Samson "Simson"?

Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, 1658–1659 and 1659–1660. (Longmans & Co.)

THE lengthy series of State Papers of the Commonwealth period has at last reached its close—none too soon for those who spurn at virtual lists and parish politics in their haste to anticipate the feverish rejoicings of the Restoration. Each of Mrs. Green's last three volumes is declared to "embrace events of great political import-

ance"; and the repetition is justified by the contents of the last two volumes at least. The Commonwealth, however, is a period of such many-sided interest that it is impossible to accept the bare political abstract which Mrs. Green offers in her prefaces as the only compensation for wading through a good deal of very dry matter. The erection of the new High Court of Justice to deal with the attempts of the late conspirators was a subject of scorn and derision to the Royalist exiles who were beyond its jurisdiction, but a stern reality to the disaffected at home, who were quickly schooled into a politic submission to the existing powers, which they did not venture to shake off even during the anarchy of the second Protectorate. The king's party, however, consoled itself in its adversity with the prospect of a united fleet and a divided army, a council distracted with the responsibilities of office, and a nation disgusted with the irresponsibility of Parliament. Passive resistance obviously was the proper policy of the well-wishers to the restoration of the monarchy, who were content to imitate the strictly constitutional opposition to the despotic government of the earlier Stuarts, being especially careful to give no colour to the device, not yet stale, of the "State in danger" from invasion by "an army of Papists and Atheists." Even the premature rising of Sir George Booth did little to prejudice their cause, for the wily leader protested against the mistake by which a patriot had been confused with a malignant, and the very troops who dispersed the insurgents indulged in sarcasms at the expense of their civilian rulers who sat at home at ease. Thus the rogues were once more outwitted by the honest men. So long, however, as the great Protector lived it was a far cry, indeed, from Breda to Whitehall; but when those who had most to lose from the restoration of the monarchy worried their champion into his grave, an unforeseen discovery was made which rendered the Restoration merely a question of months. It was found out that, in spite of the pomp of state and supposed ripeness of the times for the foundation of a constitutional monarchy, the Protector's only title to rule had existed in the hearts, and not in the heads, of his followers. With his death the one spark of loyalty and devotion was extinguished in the breasts of the army, and they became once more cool and calculating politicians, careless of forms and ceremonies, contemptuous of every civil process of government, and amenable only to their own professional interests. It is curious that of the various institutions borrowed by English Republicans during this period from foreign Protestant states the two most considerable should have chiefly contributed to the restoration of the monarchy. The "men of religion" in the army could not tolerate an hereditary stadtholdership, whilst the people, who might have been content to tolerate the mild rule of his Highness the Lord Protector Richard, refused in turn to submit to a military despotism, preferring the alternative of that familiar force which must be the product of a free Parliament. In the words of certain sturdy gentlemen of Devon:—

"Briefly, since the death of the king we have been governed by tumult, bandied from one

faction to the other, this party up to-day, that to-morrow, but still the nation under and a prey to the strongest.....We say.....the consent of the people must settle the nation. What government soever is forced upon us must expire with the force that imposed it."

The Protector's death was followed by the ominous calm which precedes a thunder-storm. At first men could best conceal their fears or ambitions by a friendly rivalry in voting honours to the departed hero, in making lavish provision for his widow, and in welcoming the succession of his eldest son as his nominee, but not less as his heir. Mrs. Green rightly observes that the expenses of the Protector's funeral were "enormous" from the calculation that they could not have been less than 150,000*l.* This sum was about ten times greater than that spent on the funeral of James I. It should be noticed, however, in respect of royal and public funerals, that a calculation was once made which showed the amount expended to be in an inverse ratio to the worth of the deceased; however, if the case of the Duke of York is the rule, that of Oliver Cromwell was the exception. There is nothing inconsistent in the professions of loyalty with which the new Protectorate was accepted by the army, and which were merely another token of regard for its old leader. As soon as the days of mourning were over they found it impossible to fill the void by sinking an individual in an institution; therefore they resolved to return to the old state of republican simplicity endeared to them by memories of Dunbar and Worcester, and to the provisional government of the Rump, under whose sanction they had set their hands to the great work, and whose manifold shortcomings they had perhaps willingly forgotten. Then if Fleetwood or a Desborough won their confidence it would be time enough to prepare another Instrument of Government or to endure another Petition and Advice. In April of 1659 the *coup d'état* was carried out by the army with its usual swiftness and success. Protector Richard was deposed and pensioned, and the constitution was again altered by the restored Rump, acting, perhaps, as a kind of convention. Within a month the new executive, having paid the ex-Protector's debts, and reduced the pensions of himself and his father's widow by more than a half, requested him "to dispose of himself as his private occasions require." On the occasion of the last serious difference between Oliver and his Commons, he called on the Lord to judge between him and them, and peremptorily dissolved them. Richard, to whom it was impossible for any situation to appear serious, ignored his notice to quit, and lingered on till he was warned off his own grounds as a trespasser.

Mrs. Green's second volume describes a state of civil war following on these momentous events, and this was the beginning of the end. A considerable part of this last volume is occupied with the Royalist rising in the North-West, and the elaborate preparations of the upstart council to resist foreign invasion. Charles, however, anticipating the unheroic attitude of the Stuart pretenders of the next century, did not stir in support of those who had risked their lives and property in his cause. Secure in Zealand, he could not bring him-

self, Mrs. Green observes, to cross "the Rubicon" of the Channel. The simile is not very appropriate. The refractory general who really crossed the "Rubicon" of the Tweed, returning from his successful government of a distant province with an army of veterans, appears on the scene almost immediately after the suppression of Booth's rising and the establishment of the military despotism that followed it. Monk, like Admiral Montague, had long held aloof from the new provisional government. The reaction which followed his appearance in arms in the cause of law and order expressed by a free Parliament is remarkable, but not wholly unprecedented either before or after. From petitions the national feeling rose to demonstrations, now of undisguised loyalty, which do not seem to have taken either party very much by surprise. The old Republicans relapsed into their usual phlegmatic condition, satisfied with having tried their hands at the art of government, and convinced of their failure by the crucial test of an empty treasury. Meanwhile the constitutional party went steadily to work for the king's restoration; but they were soon swept off their feet by a flood of loyalty, which, even if fictitious or merely hysterical, at least stood the test of eight years' misgovernment without flinching. The Declaration of Breda was received, as Mrs. Green observes, "with abject cordiality," which emboldened the Royalists to anticipate the happy event long deferred by a rush for places and pensions. They had, indeed, some claim to compensation. "My sufferings for loyalty," one writes, "have been great. I have often been imprisoned, thrice plundered, sequestered, trepanned, and decimated. They much tempted me to join them, which I abhorred. To maintain my family I solicited some friends' causes, and lived by my pen till this happy day of his Majesty's blessed return."

In the last act of the comedy the scene is laid on board the Naseby, under orders to bring back the king to his own, and the yards are being gaily dressed for the occasion with long forgotten pennants. Well might the intelligent foreigner of the period exclaim, "Good God, do the same people inhabit England that were in it ten or twenty years ago? Believe me, I know not well whether I am in England or no, and whether I dream."

Next to the narrative of political events the most important subject in these volumes is probably religion. Nothing is more notorious, and at the same time characteristic, in the spiritual régime of the Republic than the extension of toleration to all *exceptis excipiendis*. It is painful to note that for the most part this toleration gave offence to one party, and was constantly abused by the other. Zealous Republican constables attempted to impose fines on those who abstained from godly services to which the shilling fine of the prelatists was as nothing. One minister complains that he has struggled for eight years with the malignants of his parish, who condemned him because he is not canonically ordained, and who have now gone the length of superseding him in his office by reading the Prayer Book over his head. Mrs. Green gives in the preface to volume i. a full account of the sufferings of the Quaker

community during the Commonwealth. It would seem from their petitions that they had the best of the argument, yet failed to perceive that logic would not avail them even under a republic.

The notices of trade contained in these volumes are both numerous and interesting. Many of these relate to the Levant Company, which seems to have been in constant difficulties through the dishonesty or stupidity of its foreign agents, to one of whom the Company administered a sharp rebuke for breaking faith with natives as "tending to the reproach of Christianity, which ought to be tenderly regarded by its professors, especially in the view of infidels." The condition of the mercantile community at large, indeed, could scarcely have been an enviable one between dangers from Algerine pirates, payments for the release of whose prisoners frequently occur in these volumes; Christian pirates, not less savage or formidable; and dishonest officials who played into their hands. In a letter of intelligence as to the movements of a certain Capt. John Bartlett, who is "counted the father of all pirates," the writer concludes with the significant request that the Secretary of State shall not send this letter to hang on the file in the Admiralty, "for the clerks to my knowledge make a common practice of discovering things of this nature for a bribe."

It is scarcely possible in the compass of one review to do justice to these two interesting volumes. The historian may be sure that in Mrs. Green's hands the true interest of every paper is brought out and its purport weighed with scrupulous impartiality. He will be rejoiced to find that her long labours are not concluded with this series, but that they will be transferred to a kindred, though a more minute subject.

The First Nine Years of the Bank of England.
By James E. Thorold Rogers. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

In this volume Prof. Thorold Rogers has printed a record of the weekly price of Bank stock from August 17th, 1694, to September 17th, 1703, which he had compiled from the copy of John Houghton's weekly paper in the Bodleian Library, with the intention of using it in the fifth and sixth volumes of his great 'History of Prices.' As these figures supply a gap in the early history of the Bank of England, since there is no similar record preserved in its archives, they have a special value; while the study of them has enabled Prof. Thorold Rogers to throw most interesting side-lights upon the complicated political history of the time, and to produce a book which is not only important to the student of economics, but full of interest for the general reader.

There is less difficulty in dealing with these figures than with some which Prof. Thorold Rogers has already given to the public; the prices of commodities of different kinds may vary so much from place to place that it is difficult to get a normal and typical quotation for any given year, and thus there may often be uncertainty about the data. But this list, which is compiled from one source, and probably represents actual sales, gives at all events a firm groundwork for the investigation. Again, it is no easy matter to interpret the variations of the

prices of ordinary commodities; this is often felt in the present day, and it is obvious that the difficulty of detecting the reasons for fluctuations in the distant past may be much greater, while the information on which we have to rely is most defective. At the time when the Bank of England was founded, however, there were numbers of keen critics of its policy and prospects who gave vent to their opinions in pamphlets; a considerable amount of this literature dealing with the early struggles of the Bank has survived, so that the student is not forced to rely on his own ingenuity, but has the guidance of contemporary writers in accounting for the fluctuations in the prices of the stock. The book before us has a list of these early pamphlets, but a far more complete bibliography might have been compiled without much trouble.

The Bank of England was in so many ways a new experiment, and its practice differed so much from that of the banks in the great continental towns or from the dealings of the English goldsmiths, that there need be little surprise that the principles on which the undertaking could be successfully carried on should not at first be understood. This ignorance showed itself partly in the errors which the governors made by an over-issue of notes and bills in 1697, partly in the schemes for Land Banks, and other financial bubbles which found favour with the public. Prof. Thorold Rogers deals gently with the mistakes of the "honest, God-fearing, patriotic men" who conducted the affairs of the Bank, while he metes out scathing criticism on the financial schemes by which the "landed men" sought to use the newly discovered power of credit to their own advantage.

Much has been already written upon the recoinage of 1696, but Prof. Thorold Rogers lays stress on one reason for the change which has not ordinarily received sufficient attention. William's military operations in the Low Countries rendered constant remittances necessary, and with the unreformed currency English bills on Amsterdam were negotiated at an adverse rate of 21 or 22 per cent. As the recoinage proceeded there was a gradual, though by no means steady improvement, and in November, 1696, English bills were at par. The rates of exchange between England and Amsterdam from 1695 to 1703 are printed at the end of the volume, and form another exceedingly valuable contribution to the financial history of the time.

Prof. Thorold Rogers is able to assume that his readers are familiar with the political history of the greater part of the period about which he writes, as it has nearly all been described in Lord Macaulay's "History of England." It may be doubted, however, whether he is perfectly able to preserve a judicial tone in his comments on that fascinating book; he is at pains to credit Macaulay with "exhaustive fairness," and bears witness to "the exceeding fairness and cautious accuracy of this great historian." The cynic might be tempted to discount the value of this testimony by pointing out that the two authors have similar sympathies, and may be affected by similar prejudices; it need not detract, however, from the value of their writings that few people would expect to find either

the one or the other "scrupulously just" to a Tory.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Anchorage. By Mrs. Horace Field. 2 vols. (Sampson Low & Co.)

Red Spider. By the Author of 'John Herring.' 2 vols. (Chatto & Windus.)

Two North-Country Maids. By Mabel Wetheral. (Roper & Drowley.)

Marrying and Giving in Marriage. By Mrs. Molesworth. (Longmans & Co.)

'ANCHORAGE' is a graceful story which makes up by its sympathy, insight, and refinement for the slight improbabilities of the plot and the somewhat slovenly English in which Mrs. Field at times expresses herself. There is much charm in the descriptions of the heroine, a really beautiful character, of whom it is well said that her nature was one of those that transmute vulgarity as it approaches them, and we can well understand how this guileless and enthusiastic girl should have been imposed on by the showy qualities of De Launay. But there is very little of the Frenchman in De Launay himself. We are not quarrelling with the writer for her scrupulous avoidance of French dialogue or an imitation in English of the peculiarities of its structure; but it is hard to believe that any Frenchman could speak English perfectly in two years, and harder still to believe that he would choose Tennyson's 'Gardener's Daughter' to read aloud at a picnic. If, however, De Launay is a very exceptional type of French character, he serves by his weakness and selfishness as a very effective foil to the noble wife he deserts with such despicable cowardice.

Mrs. Henriquez, the quadroon woman, is a still greater puzzle, her influence, intelligence, and refinement being out of all proportion to her antecedents. The place of this personage in the story is neither well defined nor necessary. Another drawback is that the progress of the story is delayed by incidental discussions, which, though interesting in themselves, are unduly prolonged. Mrs. Field, as we have already hinted, is not a particularly accurate writer: "widowerhood," if a convenient, is an unpleasant form, and the incidental reference to a book called 'Green Fields and Pastures New' is infelicitous. The villains of most novels by women read Zola; but here an exception is made to the prejudice of Balzac, one of whose worst novels De Launay peruses on his flight from Olga. Such blemishes, however, are readily overlooked in a work which shows so much fine feeling and earnest purpose as 'Anchorage.'

'Red Spider' is modestly introduced by the writer as a slight story serving to string together some pictures of village life in Devonshire fifty years ago. Such an introduction, in the nature of an apology, is discouraging, and was unnecessary. The story is, at all events, quite well enough managed to sustain the interest of readers apt to distrust a collection of reminiscences. As for the village characteristics, the only point to be raised with regard to them is that many of them would have done equally well for other parts of the country. Superstition has, no doubt, survived in the West longer than elsewhere; but fifty years ago it was not conspicuously characteristic of secluded

Devonshire villages. The merit of the book is the opposite of that which the author apologetically claims for it. He puts it forward as a transcript from nature, just sufficiently held together by a slight and not wholly original story. But it is to be admired rather because it is a well-told and neatly contrived story, with several excellent figures exhibiting broad traits of human character with vivacity and distinctness. The author wisely avoids dialect, but goes to the other extreme in making his village people express themselves in too fine language, containing phrases and modes of thought only possible to educated people. This peculiarity he has already shown in his former novels.

It would, we think, have been better had the events of Miss Wetheral's placid romance been narrated by one rather than two "voices." The alternation of the farmer's daughter with her young mistress is not very artistic, and we greatly prefer "Nancy's voice," racy of the soil of Cumberland, to the better modulated utterances of Miss Maud Dacre. The author half apologizes for laying on the local colour at all. This, however, is her strong point, and in the restraint she has imposed upon herself, from fear of repelling the general reader, she has probably sacrificed her best chance of distinction. For the rest, this little story is prettily told, and shows a delicate appreciation on the author's part for some of the finer traits of female character. One grotesque touch is worth noticing. As though to lend extra pathos to a deathbed scene, the author tells us how "a distant street organ was playing 'Home, sweet home,' with a plaintive wail." On p. 105 Miss Wetheral talks of a "parti Carré," a curious slip. But, considering the fact that a foreign tour occupies a considerable portion of her pages, this solitary blunder is venial.

Mrs. Molesworth writes charming stories for children, but we cannot pretend to think her highly successful as a novelist. 'Marrying and Giving in Marriage' is decidedly commonplace. We are really tired of the story of the match-making mother and the submissive daughter. Lady Christina Verney is a peculiarly hard-hearted specimen of the race; Aveline is almost too weak and yielding. There is nothing new in either the plot or the treatment. For the rest, Mrs. Molesworth cannot help writing well, and she is kind enough to rescue Aveline at the last and marry her to her true love. But she would have been kinder to her own literary reputation had she abstained from writing 'Marrying and Giving in Marriage.'

ANTIQUARIAN BOOKS.

Some Historical Notices of the O'Meaghers of Ikerrin, by Joseph Casimir O'Meagher, which Mr. Elliott Stock publishes, is a valuable book of reference to the student of Irish history, and is the fruit of exhaustive study and research among the State Papers and archives not only of the United Kingdom, but of every continental country in which Irish exiles have settled or borne arms. In the lists of authorities and the interesting appendices the student will find many sources of general information suggested to him; and the value of the unostentatious genealogical paper is greatly enhanced by the copious foot-notes. The O'Meaghers rank among the most ancient Irish families, and claim unbroken descent from Oiliol Olum, who was King of Munster early

in the third century; but the clan has occupied only a secondary place in the history of Ireland, and its annals are enlivened by no such heroic figures as give life and interest to the histories of the O'Neills, O'Donnells, and O'Briens, and in a less degree the M'Carthys and O'Mores. Mr. O'Meagher, therefore, has done wisely in including matters of wider interest in his appendices. Much information respecting the state of parties in Ireland before the outbreak of the Civil War is afforded by the "Concise Relation about Ireland and the three classes of Irishmen in it," written some time between 1621 and 1640, and now translated from the Spanish original preserved in the Irish College at Salamanca; while the brief summary of the history of the Irish Brigade, with coloured plates of the uniforms of the most famous regiments, adds to the attractiveness of this admirable pamphlet, which must prove interesting alike to the profound and the superficial student. The sumptuous appearance of the work, the clear print, and thick paper are unfortunately too exceptional in an Irish history to pass without comment.

Remains of St. Mary's Abbey, Dublin: their Explorations and Researches, A.D. 1886 (Dublin, Forster & Co.), is an anonymous pamphlet of twenty-five pages, composed of short articles in reference to the above-named abbey, reprinted from 'A Picture of Dublin,' 1820, local journals, and architectural memoranda, concluding with a very brief excerpt from a Roman Catholic religious compilation of the seventeenth century. The extracts are illustrated by conjectural sketches, reproductions of engravings and photographs, with drawings of some ancient tiles recently found in excavations on portions of the site of the abbey, at present occupied by a bakery and warehouses. All the authentic documents of historic interest now accessible in connexion with the institution to which this publication refers were printed in 1884-5, in two volumes in the Rolls series, under the title of 'Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey, Dublin.' The compiler of the pamphlet before us might much augment its interest and value by having recourse to the important materials included in those 'Chartularies,' with the contents of which he appears to be but slightly acquainted.

Memoirs of Thomas Papillon, of London, Merchant (1623-1702). By A. F. W. Papillon, a Lineal Descendant (Reading, Beecroft).—Mr. A. F. W. Papillon's life of his ancestor is in some respects an unfortunate example of how a useful book may be injured by want of literary experience. Could not the author have found some friend capable of advising him as to the best way of putting a book together? As it is, the memoir is almost unintelligible without constant reference from one part to another. It treats Papillon's life in sections, and almost every section presupposes a knowledge of the contents of every other section, no matter how far on in the book. For instance, on p. 80 we are told by the way that "Papillon was in Parliament," but his election for Dover is not mentioned until p. 124. On p. 84 we read, as though it were a fact familiar to every one, of "the beginning of his exile in 1685," and of his return in 1689, while his departure for Holland does not come into notice until we reach p. 238, and his reappearance in England belongs to p. 348. If the book were intended for historical students we should not so much complain, for several of the facts of Papillon's life—for instance, the events connected with his election as sheriff of London in 1682—are tolerably well known. But Mr. A. F. W. Papillon has no such aim. He writes for those interested in the fortunes of Huguenot settlers in England, and takes his ancestor as a worthy example of the way in which a good Huguenot family might thrive in worldly affairs and also do solid service to their country; but what he requires in his readers is far more a sympathy with the religious views of a strict Puritan than

a familiarity with the details of English history. Those views are exhibited, in the form of reflections, addresses, and confessions, to an extent which to most people will appear tedious. But in other respects the author makes few demands upon his readers. He translates the most ordinary French documents, and modernizes for their convenience the "Narration made by me, Pompeus Deodati, of my life" (Deodati went first from Italy into France, and then, after the St. Bartholomew, took refuge in England), which would certainly be a good deal more interesting and characteristic if left in the "rather strained and un-English" diction of the original. It would have been better, too, if Mr. Papillon had taken the pains to indicate more regularly the sources of his quotations from unpublished materials. At present their serviceableness is seriously diminished by the absence of references. Yet it is these new materials that give the book whatever value it possesses. It will hardly be consulted except by special students, and they do not want the large extracts from Hume and Macaulay, or the biography of Sir Leoline Jenkins, to which we are here treated. The lack of orderly arrangement makes the work, as we have said, almost useless for the general reader. The student, however, will be able to unearth from it excellent illustrations of Puritan life and ways of thought in the days when Puritanism was in its decay; of the connexion kept alive with the Huguenots of the past and with the Huguenots of Papillon's own time; of commercial dealings and enterprises in the seventeenth century; and of the fortunes of a not insignificant member of the Country Party under Charles II. A word of praise is due to the well-executed portraits of various members of the family, and of persons with whom Papillon was brought into relation; and the volume as a whole is creditable to a local printer and publisher.

The History of Tithes from Abraham to Queen Victoria. By H. W. Clarke. (Redway).—This is a singular book. The writer's description of "King Melchizedek" as the "first recorded tithe-owner" illustrates his curious conception of history together with his resolve to start from the very beginning of his subject. There is no more characteristic passage in the work than his allusion to "the good old custom of one paying one's tithes, according to one's own free will, to good and godly men, able to preach the Gospel" (p. 93). Here we have, happily combined, the writer's aversion to the Queen's English, to compulsory payment of tithes, and to the Ritualistic school. The two leading ideas which appear to have inspired this treatise are, firstly, that tithes should never have been allowed to become a compulsory payment; secondly, that the clergy should not be free to move Romwards without restraint while receiving tithes as members of the Church as by law established. The position of the writer is independent and curious. He is no "Liberationist," and writes as a member of the Church. Yet he denounces in unsparing terms Church defence publications, asserting that in the well-known 'Brief' "there is quite twice as much fiction as facts." He contrasts ostentatiously with this his own freedom from bias, of which the reader may judge from his initial axiom that tithes are "an odious and unscriptural tax," with his assertions that "the large majority of owners of advowsons.....make the most money they can out of them," and that "Parliament being almost composed of landlords, solve [sic] tithe problems, of course, in their own interests." Mr. Clarke's acquaintance with the history of his subject may be inferred from his quoting "Ingrulph." Writers of this class usually do. He also writes glibly of "monks who were mostly laymen," and is careful to speak throughout of "capitular chapters." His confidence in his own opinion is in inverse ratio to his knowledge. Dr. Stubbs's explanation of the famous "donation" is, for instance, thus disposed of:—

"It is asserted by some writers that Ethelwulph [sic] had only subjected the royal demesnes to the payment of tithes from which they were exempted before. I cannot endorse this statement." The change of front which the defenders of the Church have been executing in the face of the enemy has exposed them to some awkward attacks, and Mr. Clarke has no doubt seized on a weak point in the line which seems to have been now adopted. Nor must we take leave of Mr. Clarke without praising his twelfth chapter, which contains an impartial and valuable array of facts and figures, which should be read by all who are interested in the solution of the tithe problem.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

UNDER the title of *Records of Service and Campaigning in Many Lands* (Hurst & Blackett), Surgeon-General Munro has published two volumes of his experiences of war. He writes in a plain, straightforward manner, and though he is inclined to crowd his pages with unnecessary details, his two volumes will give much pleasure to soldiers old and young. The doctor has been, on the whole, a fortunate man, though he did not obtain the post he coveted of Director-General, and not only cured many of his patients, but managed to preserve his own health and spirits in many climates, and while undergoing much fatigue and occasional privation.

A VERY different kind of life is described in *Then and Now*, by Mr. W. Hunt (Hamilton & Adams). Mr. Hunt has been an active and successful journalist for some five-and-forty years, starting when provincial journals were most of them on a very small scale, and he tells of his experiences in connexion with them as well as his work as the Plymouth correspondent of the *Daily News* in the days before telegrams. Mr. Hunt also relates the early fortunes of the *Western Morning News* and of the *Eastern Morning News*, and gives an account of the formation of the Press Association and of the Central News. The volume will be found of much interest by press men. Sundry slips, such as "described" for ascribed, p. 89, should be corrected, and a type with a better face used in the next edition.

Life of Charles Darwin. By G. T. Bettany. (Scott).—It is rather difficult to discover the reason why this little book has been published. Immediately after Mr. Darwin's death a series of articles written by Prof. Huxley, Mr. Theselton Dyer, and others appeared in the pages of *Nature*, and were afterwards republished in a collected form as one of the "Nature Series"; in 1885 Mr. Grant Allen published a short and "popular" life, and Mr. Woodall has written on him in the *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society*; as everybody knows, the life and letters of his great father will, before long, be brought out by Mr. F. Darwin. Taking all these facts into consideration, we can hardly recommend to our readers Mr. Bettany's last book; it is thin, sketchy, and uncritical, save when some slight errors of Mr. Grant Allen are corrected, or opportunity is afforded of showing the additions made to Darwin's views by his "prominent disciple, Romanes."

Boys and Masters, by Mr. A. H. Gilkes (Longmans & Co.), is a book for masters rather than boys. It is very little adorned with the incidents generally looked for in boys' books on school life, and deals with the merest routine of daily work and play. In his merits and in his defects the able author shows himself a good specimen of the modern type of schoolmaster. The anxious debates on boyish character, as displayed in the varying glimpses of it obtained by the inmates of the common-room, are true to life, as any one who has ever been of the craft will acknowledge. They are conscientious and wise on the whole, these good masters, the self-sacrificing Scott above all; yet they are prone to act on rather hasty generalizations, and fancy

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their insight into their young friends' dispositions much deeper than it is. They are a little fussy and a little hypercritical, and hug to their bosoms a little superiority to vulgar creeds and social conventionalities; but they are thoroughly good fellows at heart. The boys are, on the whole, well drawn (Coddles is a good unselfish fellow, and dies to point a moral); and we should not mind sending a son to their society. But Scott was wrong, in our opinion, about sending the boat to Henley. He rather suggests a hen with ducklings, though, as a teacher of Greek poetry, he is an intellectual bird. We can strongly recommend the book to the brotherhood of "the brush."

La Marchesa, a Story of the Riviera; and other Tales. By Paul Heyse. Translated by John Phillips. (Stock.)—Every one who knows anything of contemporary German literature is familiar with at least some of the "Novellen" of Paul Heyse. They are the most finished works of art which have been produced in Germany during the lifetime of the present generation. In all of them the writer seeks to be true to the facts of life, but that does not mean—as it means in the case of so many writers who claim to be exceptionally faithful interpreters of reality—that he devotes attention only to commonplace or disagreeable elements of human nature. His aim is to penetrate to the inmost recesses of striking types of character, and to give vivid representations of ideas which appeal powerfully to the imagination. No living writer, either in Germany or elsewhere, surpasses him in the skill with which he makes a short story an adequate medium for the expression of fresh and brilliant conceptions, and the variety of his tales is not less remarkable than the strength, grace, and purity of their style. The three stories translated by Mr. Phillips are admirable specimens of Heyse's art, and to some readers, we may hope, they will suggest that it would be almost worth while to learn German in order to obtain the means of appreciating fully the works of so good a writer. Mr. Phillips deserves much credit for the care with which he has accomplished his task.

DR. RICHARDSON has put together, under the title of *The Commonwealth* (Longmans), a series of essays written in a bright, pleasant way, and explaining his well-known ideas on health, general and individual. The volume concludes with an essay on cycling.—*The Mineral Waters of Vichy*, by Dr. Cormack (Churchill), combines in one handy volume a treatise on the healing virtues of the waters and a guide to the town and neighbourhood. Two maps facilitate the use of the book as a guide. Dr. Cormack's practical knowledge of Vichy is a guarantee of the soundness of the medical portion of his work, which no doubt will become an authority in this country.

MESSES. LONGMAN send us *The Life of Sir Joseph Napier, Bart.: a Political Biography*, by Mr. Alexander P. Ewald. If Mr. Ewald had termed his work a political and Evangelical biography he would have been more correct, for from the beginning to the end it contains little else than Sir Joseph's letters and speeches in favour of Conservative politics and of the Low Church school of religious thought. True it is that in this age of reform and change his views may be deemed antiquated and even narrow; still they possess a degree of interest as being the deliberately formed and conscientious convictions of one of the cleverest men of his day, who by sheer force of intellect, notwithstanding physical infirmity, raised himself from comparative obscurity to be Lord Chancellor of Ireland and Lord Justice of Appeal in England. His success was the more remarkable as he never once compromised a principle or yielded to popular clamour. Almost always on the unpopular and losing side, he maintained his ground with such candour and temper that he invariably won the respect of his opponents, notably of

O'Connell, who entertained the highest opinion of him, although he nicknamed him "Holy Joe"—a sobriquet of which Sir Joseph felt proud. The consistency with which he opposed Catholic emancipation, every reform bill, the admission of the Jews to Parliament, and the disestablishment of the Irish Church, was equalled by the prescience he displayed in his well-intended, but abortive efforts at legislation on the Irish land question. His thorough knowledge of his countrymen, of their merits and of their failings, led him to see the real ground of their discontent. We can say no more in praise of this book than this, that the greater part of the volume is a selection from his letters and speeches, the portion contributed by the author being comparatively small. In general the selection has been well made, but a long and tedious discussion on Ritualism might well have been omitted, as the subject does not now excite the interest it did twenty years ago. It is, however, highly characteristic of the acute mind and Evangelical views of Sir Joseph. Posterity will regard him not only as a brilliant barrister and judge, but as the possessor of rare administrative ability. This was evidenced by his conduct in the reorganization of the Irish Church, and as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dublin. To these two institutions he was attached with almost a filial affection.

The Dictionary of the Church of England, edited by the Rev. E. L. Cutts, and published by the Christian Knowledge Society, is a useful popular handbook; but the biographies should either have been omitted altogether or made much more numerous. At present they add to the bulk of the volume without increasing its value.

UNDER the title of *The Game of Cricket* (Sonnenschein) Mr. Gale has reprinted several gossipy and amusing articles from the sporting papers. They make an agreeable volume which every cricketer will read with pleasure.

We have a number of booksellers' catalogues on our table. Among the contributors are Messrs. Bailey Brothers, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Bumpus (topography), Mr. Daniell (topography), Messrs. Dulau (Italian books and medical books), Mr. Higham, Mr. Nutt (European history), Mr. Quaritch, Messrs. Rimmell, Messrs. Sotheran, and Mr. Stibbs; Messrs. Meehan, of Bath; Mr. Hitchman and Mr. Wilson, of Birmingham; Messrs. Fawn, of Bristol; Mr. Brown, Mr. Clay, Messrs. Douglas & Foulis, and Mr. Scott, of Edinburgh; Mr. Howell and Messrs. Young & Sons, of Liverpool; Messrs. Sotheran, of Manchester; Mr. Blackwell, of Oxford; Mr. Gilbert, of Southampton; Messrs. Muller, of Amsterdam (*curios medica*); and Mr. Cohn (books on Poland, Russia, &c.) and Mr. Stargardt, of Berlin.

We have received the annual reports of the Free Libraries at Aston, Norwich, Plymouth, Richmond, Rochdale, Wigan, and Yarmouth. The last named is housed in the Tolhouse. The reports are all cheerful in tone.

We have on our table *Fifty Years in Fifty Minutes*, by W. A. Gibbs (Rydal).—*A Descriptive Catalogue of Urdu Christian Literature*, by the Rev. H. U. Weitbrecht (R.T.S.).—*Transactions of the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society, Part II.* (Leicester, Gibbons).—*Complete Vocabularies to Otto's German Grammar*, by P. E. C. Barbier (Nutt).—*Miscellaneous Latin Exercises*, by A. M. M. Stedman (Bell).—*La Canne de Jonec*, by Count Alfred de Vigny, edited, with Notes, by the Rev. H. A. Bull (Cambridge, University Press).—*Principles of Art*, by J. C. Van Dyke (Trübner).—*The ABC of Modern Dry-Plate Photography* (The London Stereoscopic Company).—*An Introduction to Machine Drawing and Design*, by D. A. Low (Longmans).—*Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. II. No. I. (New York, Ginn).—*Mind-Cure on a Material Basis*, by S. E. Titcomb (Trübner).—*The Duties and the Rights of Man*, by J. B. Austin (Trübner).—*Lovejoy's Household Almanack and Year Book*, 1887 (Reading, Langley).

—*A Day after the Fair*, by W. Cairns (Sonnen-schein).—*In Possession*, by C. S. Lowndes (White).—*Told in a Trance*, by K. Clinton (Sonnenschein).—*The Last Man in London*, by D. North (Hodder & Stoughton).—*Stratharran*, by B. Watten (Edinburgh, Oliphant & Co.).—*Wife or No Wife? and A Close Share*, by T. W. Speight (Chatto & Windus).—*In His Own Hand*, by Mrs. G. Linneaus Banks (Simpkin).—*The Sad Story of John Dalrymple*, by D. Pater-son (Glasgow, Gillespie).—*Scythe and Sword*, by O. C. Auringer (Boston, U.S., Lothrop).—*Border and other Poems*, by R. Allan (Kelsel, Rutherford).—*How to Study the English Bible*, by R. B. Girdlestone (R.T.S.).—*Notes on the Amended English Bible*, by H. Ierzon (British and Foreign Unitarian Association).—*Studies in St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians*, by W. S. Wood (Rivingtons).—*The Scripture Doctrine of the Atonement*, by H. Harris (Frowde).—*Lessons from the Cross*, by S. D. Headlam (Kegan Paul).—*Specific Unbelief England's Greatest Sin*, by A. S. Lamb (Nisbet).—*Expositions*, by the Rev. S. Cox, D.D., Third Series (Fisher Un-win).—*Horse Sabbath*, by G. Higgins (Dublin, Hodges). Among New Editions we have *Macmillan's Latin Course*, by A. M. Cook (Macmillan).—*Elements of Hygiene and Sanita-tion for Schools and Colleges*, by J. Campbell (Dublin, Gill).—*Wayside Songs, with Later Lyrics*, by J. Brown (Glasgow, Wilson).—*A Garland from the Parables*, by W. E. Littlewood (Mack).—*Infoldings and Unfoldings of the Divine Genius in Nature and Man*, by J. Pulsford (Hamilton). Also the following Pamphlets: *The Church of England, its History and National Claims*, by the Rev. M. Fuller (Bosworth).—*Rank and Degree in Church, Correspondence between the Archbishop of York and the Churchwardens of St. Mary's, Beverley* (Beverley, Green).—*The Law of the Land*, by E. J. Phelps (Edinburgh, Douglas).—*England as a Petroleum Power*, by C. Marvin (Anderson).—and *On the Study of Literature*, by J. Morley (Mac-millan).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Guinness's (H. G.) *Romanism and the Revolution from the Standpoint of Prophecy*, cr. 8vo, 5/- cl.

Morse's (H. G.) *Apostolic Succession*, cr. 8vo, 3/- cl.

Myres's (W. M.) *Book of Common Prayer*, A.D. 1886, com-pared with First Prayer Book of Edward VI., 8vo, 10/- cl.

Pinnock's (Rev. W. H.) *The Bible and Contemporary His-tory*, 2 vols., 8vo, 18/- cl.

Trotter's (Rev. E. B.) *The Church of England, her Early History*, &c., cr. 8vo, 5/- cl.

Law.

Dajan's (Lieut. G. C.) *Synopsis of Military Law*, 12mo, 2/- cl.

Lush's (M.) *Married Women's Rights and Liabilities*, 6/- cl.

Morris's (R.) *Patents Conveyancing*, roy. 8vo, 25/- cl.

Poetry.

Canton's (W.) *A Lost Epic, and other Poems*, 12mo, 5/- cl.

History and Biography.

Beecher (H. W.), *Memorials*, compiled and edited by E. W. Bok, 8vo, 6/- cl.

De Ainacie's (General) *Historical Records of the First or the Royal Regiment of Dragoons*, sm. 4to, 21/- cl.

England under Victoria, a Complete and Authentic History of our Times, 4to, 21/- cl.

Huhn's (A. von) *Kidnapping of Prince Alexander of Bul-garia*, &c., cr. 8vo, 5/- cl.

Geography and Travel.

Bell's (M.) *By Northern Seas*, cr. 8vo, 2/8 cl.

Fetridge's (W. P.) *Handbook for Travellers in Europe and the East*, 3 vols., cr. 8vo, 16/- each, leather.

Stanford's *London Atlas of Universal Geography*, 90 Maps, imp. folio, 24/- half-morocco.

Bibliography.

Bouchot's (H.) *The Printed Book, its History, Illustration*, &c., translated by E. C. Bigmore, cr. 8vo, 9/- cl.

Philology.

Compton's (W. C.) *Rudiments of Attic Construction and Idiom*, cr. 8vo, 3/- cl.

Kitchin's (D. B.) *An Introduction to the Study of Provençal*, cr. 8vo, 4/- cl.

Milton's *Paradise Lost*, Books 1 and 2, edited with Notes and Introduction by M. Macmillan, 12mo, 2/- cl.

Science.

Carnelley's (T.) *Physico-Chemical Constants*, Vol. 2, 42/- cl.

Champney's (F. H.) *Experimental Researches in Artificial Respiration in Stillborn Children*, &c., cr. 8vo, 3/- cl.

Crawley's (W. J. C.) *Open Competition Handbooks: Preliminary Arithmetic*, imp. 18mo, 2/- bds.

Down (J. L.) *On some of the Mental Affections of Childhood and Youth*, 8vo, 6/- cl.

Fothergill's (J. M.) *Vaso - Renal Change versus Bright's Disease*, 8vo, 7/- cl.

Hartwig's (Dr. G.) *Denizens of the Deep; Dwellers in the Arctic Regions* (from 'The Polar World'); *Volcanoes and Earthquakes* (from 'The Subterranean World'), cr. 8vo, 2/6 each, cl.; *Wild Animals of the Tropics*, 3/6 cl. Hutchinson's (J.) *Syphilis*, 12mo, 9/- cl. (Clinical Manuals.) Ultzmann (Dr. R.) *On Sterility and Impotence in Man*, translated, &c., by A. Cooper, 12mo, 2/- cl.

General Literature.

Barton's (A.) *Brother or Lover*, cr. 8vo, 3/6 cl. Bassett and Rice's *Ready-Money Mortiboy*, library ed., 6/- cl. Bird's *Modern Chess and Chess Masterpieces*, 8vo, 7/- cl. Braddon's (Miss) *Mohawks*, 12mo, 2/- bds. Broughton's (R.) *Doctor Cupid*, a Novel, cr. 8vo, 6/- cl. Carey's (R. N.) *Esther royal*, 16mo, 3/6 cl. Crawford's (O.) *Beyond the Seas, being the Surprising Adventures, &c., of Ralph Lorn St. Keyne*, cr. 8vo, 6/- cl. Croker's (B.) *The Proper Pride*, 12mo, 2/- bds. Croker's (B. M.) *Fairy Miss Neville*, 12mo, 2/- bds. Granville's (C.) *Sir Hector's Watch*, cr. 8vo, 2/6 bds. Hand in Hand in Children's Land, with Rhymes by S. and E. Lecky, with 24 illustrations, 4to, 2/6 bds. Horton's (S. D.) *The Silver Pound and England's Monetary Policy* since the Restoration, royal 8vo, 14/- cl. James's (H.) *The Princess Casamassima*, cr. 8vo, 6/- cl. Kinnear's (J. B.) *Principles of Civil Government*, cr. 8vo, 7/- cl. Lacy's (L.) *Passions Subdued*, cr. 8vo, 2/- cl. Modern Faustus and his Views, an Agnostic Allegory, 7/6 cl. Molesworth's (Mrs.) *Marrying and Giving in Marriage*, cheap edition, cr. 8vo, 2/- cl. Morgan's (Rev. F. H.) *The Prior of Gysburne* (Gisborough), cr. 8vo, 5/- cl. Payn's (J.) *Talk of the Town*, 12mo, 2/- bds. Present Position of European Politics, or Europe in 1887, by the Author of 'Greater Britain', cr. 8vo, 12/- cl. Thomas's (D. H.) *The Touchstone of Peril*, cr. 8vo, 6/- cl. Thompson's (E. S.) *Moy O'Brien, a Tale of Irish Life*, 6/- cl.

FOREIGN.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Gautier (T.): *Militia, Dix Compositions de A. Moreau*, 35fr. Kleinpaul (R.): *Florenz in Wort u. Bild*, Parts 13-19, 7m. Langl (J.): *Griechische Götter u. Helden gestalten*, Parts 14 and 15, 5m. Meisterwerke der Holzschnidekunst, Parts 97-102, 6m. Mittheilungen d. Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, 12m.

Drama.

Kreiten (W.): *Moliere's Leben u. Werke*, 8m. Philology.

Knaack (G.): *Callimachea*, 1m, 20. Meusel (H.): *Lexicon Caesarianum*, Pt. 8, 2m, 40. Stokes (W.): *Windisch (E.) Irish Texts*, 6m. Winkler (H.): *Zur Sprachgeschichte*, 6m.

General Literature.

Coquelin (E. A. H.): *Le Rire*, 3fr. 50. Laforest (D. de): *Le Cornac*, 3fr. 50. Plus d'anglais ! 2fr.

AN UNICUAL CODEX OF DEMOSTHENES.

HITHERTO editors of Demosthenes have rightly said that of all the known codices "Dux est codex antiquissimus Σ," and that "antiquissima recensio servatur in seculi X. Σ"; but in April I found in the Fayoum a fragment of an uncial codex on papyrus, containing a few lines of the oration against Midias, p. 527, l. 11. It closely resembles in style the Codex Alexandrinus, and is probably of the third century of our era. It commences :—

Tίς ἀνθρωπίνη καὶ
μετρία σΚΗΨΙΣΦΑΝΕΙ
ται τωΝΙΕΠΡΑΓΜΕ
νων ΑΥΤΩΙΟΡΓΗ
νή ΔιΑΚΑΙΓΑΡΤΟΥ
το τυχόΝΑΛΕΞΙΑΔ
λα μην ΑΝΤΙΣΑΦΝΩ,

and thirty-one subsequent lines.

Although it adds nothing to our knowledge, yet it shows that when my plan for the restoration of the vast engineering works which centred in the Fayoum and Raiyan basins is put into execution, it will be the duty of the Government to examine with great care the ruined towns, such as that from whose dry mounds this and other fragments were obtained, before moisture is permitted to reach and destroy their literary treasures.

COPE WHITEHOUSE.

THE MILLER'S TALE.

Bottesford Manor, Brigg.

No line written by Chaucer is oftener quoted than that in 'The Miller's Tale' which tells us that the parish clerk "yleped Absolon" had Poules windowes coven on his shooes.

We are most of us familiar from engravings with the strange, and as I think beautiful, patterns which were pierced in the upper leathers of shoes of the fashionable type at and before the time in which Chaucer flourished. Some of

these designs are almost exactly like the tracery of certain Decorated windows. Because a man has discovered his own ignorance it is seldom on that ground alone a wise act to attribute a similar want of knowledge to others. I think, however, that in this instance I am not wrong in assuming that most persons when they read this line, either in the tale itself or cut off from the text and used as a quotation, believe, if, indeed, they think on the matter at all, that the poet originated the idea that these ornamental piercings, which permitted brightly dyed stockings to be seen through elaborate tracery, were like church windows. It was a very natural idea to have occurred to such a poet as Chaucer, whose humour is often enriched by comparisons and illustrations which in the hands of a less perfect artist would seem incongruous. Such an assumption, however natural, is, I believe, in this case without foundation. There was kind of leather called "corium fenestratum." This is demonstrated by the following quotation from the 'De Sacro Altaris Mysterio' of Pope Innocent III. I have not a copy of the book at hand to refer to. I transcribe from the late Dr. Rock's 'Church of our Fathers,' vol. ii. p. 238. The Pope is discussing of the sandals which formed a part of a bishop's ministerial dress :—

"Sandalia vero de subtus integrum habent soleam, derunt autem corium fenestratum quia gressus praedicatoris debent et subtus esse muniti, ne poluantur terrenis : secundum illud Executio pulverem de pedibus vestris, et sursum aperti, quatenus ad cognoscendam coelestia reverentur....Quod autem sandalias quibusdam locis aperta, quibusdam clausa sunt, designat quod Evangelica praedicatio nec omnibus debet revelari, nec omnibus debet abscondi. Siue scriptum est : Vobis datum est nosse mysteria regni Dei, ceteris autem in parabolis."—Lib. i. cap. xlviij.

In a grave book such as this it is not likely that a phrase would be employed that was invented on the spur of the moment, and it is still less probable that one would be used that had humorous associations. We may feel pretty well assured that "corium fenestratum" was, when the Pope wrote, the recognized name for the perforated leather of which shoes were made. That Pope Innocent's book was known in England is probable, perhaps certain. Chaucer may have derived his idea from that source or from written or spoken sentence founded on the above extract, but it is much more probable that "corium fenestratum" or some French equivalent was a trade term well known to shoemakers and all the dressy young men who took delight in this gaudy manner of decorating their persons. If so the Pope and the poet derived the idea from a common source. It would be interesting to know whether "corium fenestratum" is mentioned in any Italian, French, or English trade accounts of or before Chaucer's time. Is there in existence any treatise on shoemaking of a date early enough to throw light on the subject?

EDWARD PEACOCK.

THE REV. WM. MATURIN, D.D.

We have lost the greatest preacher in the Irish Church, and yet one who made no public sensation, and whose death was hardly noticed in the leading Irish journals. William Maturin (son of a once well-known and eccentric novelist), for forty-four years perpetual curate of Grangegorman, close to Dublin, passed away last week at the ripe age of eighty-four after a few minutes' illness. He had been visiting the sick and transacting other parochial business on the very day of his death. He had lost but little of his old vigour.

And yet he was not a popular, though a very great preacher. The reason is obvious enough. He was a High Churchman, formed by the movement of Pusey and Newman; and though he always stood firm to his Church, and was strongly opposed to the Church of Rome, yet to the Irish Evangelical masses he ranked as little better than a Papist. Hence his congregation,

because it consisted of really serious and cultivated people, was never very large, and even many who could not but admire him stood aloof from his doctrine. In England he would have been thought a moderate man, and from the first he was thoroughly consistent, never going one step beyond his original position; but he was also very outspoken, he had a most forcible way of putting down amateur controversialists, and he never concealed his contempt for every kind of imposture. Need we wonder that he was not popular?

Only one small volume of his sermons is as yet published, 'The Events of Holy Week,' and in that the reader may find a foretaste of what is to come. We should have persuaded him long since to give more to the world; but as he grew old he preached his sermons again and again, and therefore we would not preclude his further use of them during his life. It is one proof of their greatness that no one ever regretted hearing them a second time from his lips. They became, as it were, a part of the liturgy of his church. He was a grim Dante-like sort of man, with deep affection for his family and friends hidden under a severe exterior. He was perfectly certain and clear in his views—a quality rare in modern preachers, and fatal to modern preaching; his simple burning words reflected the zeal of his spirit. He stood like some saint of three centuries ago among changes and fashions which he ignored and condemned. He would have nothing to do with the "collection of persons styling itself the Synod of the Church of Ireland." I saw him crush by his fiery words a mob of young men who came to disturb his service on Protestant principles, and drive them cowed and slinking from his church. They had victoriously broken up a service in another church the previous Sunday.

This was the man whom Whately for many years scandalously ignored, and to whom Trench, who truly esteemed him, offered promotion so late that he felt too old and rooted in his parish to accept it. His curacy brought him 100/- a year. His friends got him the post of librarian at Archbishop Marsh's Library, some 250/- more, where he sat a venerable medieval figure forgotten among forgotten medieval books, but in daily contact with the old English divines, where he perfected that style which had no rival but Cardinal Newman's in purity, and far surpassed it in fire. In these latter days, when Irish eloquence has become both florid and verbose, he brought us back to the standard of Swift and Goldsmith, and showed us that to express great thoughts in the simplest and clearest words was the only eloquence that leaves its sting behind.

J. P. MAHAFFY.

SALE.

THE sale of the first portion of the extensive library of the late Mr. James T. Gibson Craig, of Edinburgh, commenced at the rooms of Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge on June 27th. In the first eight days were sold at high prices : Apuleius, Cupido et Psiche, with woodcuts by Le Petit Bernard, Madame de Pompadour's copy, 34l. Bible printed in 1676 at Edinburgh, on account of its beautiful binding, 63l. Bocace traduit par Maçon, 21l. Boethii Historia Scotorum, first edition, on large paper, Grolier's copy rebocked, 85l. Bossuet, Histoire des Variations des Eglises Protestantes, first edition, 29l. Bury, Philobiblon, 21l. Cavalieris Romanorum Imperatorum Effigies, 44l. Cervantes, Persiles y Sigismunda, first edition, 23l. Chronicon Nurembergense, 26l. Ciceronis Orationes, Count Hoym's copy, 21l. 10s.; Cicero's Cato Major, printed by B. Franklin, 30l. Dante, L'Inferno da Lord Vernon, 27l. De Foe's Robinson Crusoe, first edition, 50l. Earl of Haddington's Poems, autograph manuscript, 65l. 10s.; and Printed Poems, 14l.

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Hesiodi Opera, Longepierre's copy, 25l. Heures à l'usage de Romme, printed in 1502 on vellum, 25l. 10s. Higden's Polycronicon, printed in 1495 by Wynkyn de Worde, imperfect, 16l. 5s. Holbein, Icones Vet. Test., first edition, 25l. Horæ B. Marie, manuscript, circa 1270, by a Scotch scribe, from the Murthly collection, 325l.; and other MS. Horæ, 75l., 30l., and 31l.; also printed Horæ, 16l. and 15l. 5s. La Fontaine, Contes, Edition des Fermiers Généraux, 34l. 10s. La Roche, Arismetique, from the library of the Earl of Boswell, Queen Mary's husband, 8l. Lesles de Origine Scotorum, from the library of Maximilian I., 35l. 5s. Marguerites de la Marguerite, 22l. Nova Legenda Angliae, printed by Wynkyn de Worde, 28l. Oribasii Synopsis, Marguerite de Valois's copy, 96l. Poliphili Hypnerotomachia, 90l.; and the French version, 22l. Recueil des Comedies et Ballets, Madame de Pompadour's copy, 41l. 10s. Regnard, Œuvres, 60l. The eight days' sale produced 5,173l. 5s.

LIBRARIES IN THE EAST.

M. PAUL BESOBRAF was dispatched last winter on a mission to the Hellenic East by the Palestine Society of St. Petersburg, and has lately travelled through Greece. For Russians the history of the Lower Empire has naturally great interest, and several of their scholars have lately been visiting the shores of the Mediterranean, especially as materials for the study of the Byzantine Empire have accumulated rapidly in the last few years. We may give the result of M. Besobrasof's visits to Zante and Crete.

The public library of Zante, founded in 1883, contains fifty-three manuscripts, partly Greek, partly Italian, most of them belonging to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The Greek MSS., which came mainly from monasteries and private libraries, are chiefly devoted to theological and liturgical subjects, and are of little interest to a palaeographer or an historian. The Italian are far more attractive, such as the Libro d'Oro of the nobility of Zante. Most of them contain material throwing much light on the history of the Ionian Islands under Venetian, French, Russian, and English sway. The town records of Zante also comprise a great deal of importance from this point of view: a register of the feuds on the island in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, decrees of the Venetian Senate, a register of letters of the Doge, and books of "Ordini" from 1487.

The most interesting thing in Zante, however, is the archives of the Roman Catholic bishopric. Of great importance is the parchment describing the possessions of the Roman Church in 1264. It has several times attracted the attention of scholars, but has not been printed in full. The keeper of the library, Panag. Chiotis, author of a remarkable history of the Ionian Islands, promises to publish it in the last volume of his book. Besides the manuscript there are many documents of value in the archives. In several of the churches are preserved the seals of the Greek patriarchs of Constantinople. They belong to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Some of them are noticed in the "Analecta Philologica Zaczynthi" of the late Bishop Katramis.

After M. Besobrasof had inspected the manuscripts of Zante he proceeded to Crete, where he found nothing but three Venetian documents and three seals of patriarchs dated 1680, 1706, and 1797, all belonging to the monastery of Chrysopege, not far from the town of Canea. Otherwise he discovered nothing in the island. The monastic libraries have perished in the numerous insurrections in the island, especially in 1821.

Literary Gossip.

A NUMBER of letters written by Samuel Rogers, the poet, to his friend Richard Sharpe have just come to light, and will

probably be included in the work by Mr. P. W. Clayden to which we lately referred.

'ONE TRAVELLER RETURNS,' a romance by Mr. Christie Murray and another writer, will start in *Longman's Magazine* for August. The scene of the story is laid in Britain in the first century, and the authors describe it as "an experiment in imaginative art."

DR. WARRE is making progress with the new series of Eton school-books. The 'Smaller Latin Grammar,' abridged by Mr. Ainger and Mr. Wintle from their larger work, and intended for use in preparatory schools, will be published this month by Mr. Murray. The 'Eton Exercises in Algebra,' by Mr. E. P. Rouse and Mr. Cockshott, are also nearly ready.

THE first volume of the publications of the Somerset Record Society is nearly ready for issue. It contains a full analysis of the contents of the register of Bishop Drokensford preserved at Wells. The editor is Bishop Hobhouse. This volume will be followed immediately, as we understand, by Mr. Emanuel Green's 'Somerset Chancery,' being a fully annotated edition of the original returns, *temp. Edward VI.* now among the Augmentation Office records.

IT is proposed to start the series of publications to be issued by the new Selden Society with a volume of thirteenth century pleadings derived from the original Coram Rege and Assize Rolls in the Public Record Office. Mr. F. W. Maitland has undertaken to collect the materials and edit the volume. By the way, Mr. Maitland's edition of 'Bracton's Note-Book' has, we are informed, been printed at the Pitt Press, and not the Clarendon.

MESSRS. PICKERING & CHATTO have in preparation a reprint of Sir John Maundeville's 'Voyage and Travayle,' which is to be edited by Mr. John Ashton, author of 'Chap-books of the Eighteenth Century' and other works. The new edition of this curious book will contain facsimiles of the original quaint illustrations, and will form a demy octavo volume; but one hundred copies will be printed on larger paper and numbered. It is expected to be ready in September.

THE forthcoming number of the *English Historical Review* will contain articles by Prof. Freeman on Aëtius and Boniface; by Mr. Theodore Bent on Byzantine palaces; and by Mr. Oscar Browning on Queen Caroline of Naples. Lord Acton contributes two reviews, dealing with Canon Creighton's 'History of the Papacy' and with Prof. Seeley's 'Short History of Napoleon.'

FOR the convenience of Orientalists generally, whether students or experts, the Council of the Royal Asiatic Society have recently passed the following resolution: That all persons willing and competent to teach Oriental languages, or to copy MSS. or perform clerical work requiring acquaintance with Sanskrit, Chinese, Arabic, Persian, Turkish, or any other language and written character coming within the scope of the Society's research, be invited to register their names and addresses at No. 22, Albermarle Street.

THE sudden death is announced of Eugenie Marlitt, the well-known German novelist.

She expired in her birthplace, Arnstadt, in Thuringia, on the 22nd of June. Like many other popular writers she only took up the profession of literature rather late in life. In her early days her musical talent and fine voice attracted the attention of the Princess of Schwarzburg-Sondershausen, who adopted her as a daughter, and sent her to the High School of Sondershausen; and later on to Vienna to continue her musical studies. She lived in Vienna for three years, and went upon the stage, where she met with no little success. Unfortunately, however, her theatrical career was cut short by an ear complaint, and her benefactress again befriended her and took her into her employ as a reader. It was at her friend's schloss, and in the many journeys she made in her company, that she was enabled to study the world, and gain the experience she afterwards turned to such account in her romances. In 1863 she gave up her position, and settled at Arnstadt, where she remained, although suffering much in body, yet ever active and working at her novels. The *Gartenlaube* first introduced her work to the world, but once before the public her success was quickly assured. Her most successful work is 'Goldelse,' and her 'Old Maid's Secret' and 'The Stepmother' have also been much read.

THE Crown Princess of Germany was to be present at a meeting held yesterday (Friday) afternoon at the Drapers' Hall in support of the Training College for Teachers in Higher Grade Girls' Schools. It is desired to found some scholarships to enable promising students to secure the benefit of professional training, and to collect a reserve fund to secure the stability and uniformity of the work. Mrs. Salis Schwabe has already promised 2,000l. towards this purpose. The following speakers were to address the meeting: the Marquis of Ripon, Earl Granville, Mr. Mundella, Sir Lyon Playfair, Mrs. Westlake, and Mr. J. G. Fitch.

MR. W. E. A. AXON is preparing for the press a reprint, with additions, of a brochure entitled 'Manchester a Hundred Years Ago,' which was originally issued in 1783 under the title of 'A Description of Manchester by a Native of the Town.'

AT a recent meeting of the Town Council of Hastings a communication was made from Lord Brassey offering to present to the corporation a reference library, which offer was gratefully accepted. One of the speakers at the meeting estimated the value of the present at 15,000l.

THE Johns Hopkins University of Baltimore, U.S., has under way a complete facsimile edition of 'The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles.' It is intended to make this the standard edition. The text will be accompanied with critical notes by Prof. J. Rendel Harris, of Haverford College, and its issue may be expected in October.

A POPULAR Hindu story by K. Vireshalimgham, Pandit, entitled 'Rajasekhara,' is being translated for English readers by Mr. J. R. Hutchinson. It will be published by Mr. Elliot Stock, and will have an introduction by General Macdonald.

MR. H. LING ROTH has finally corrected his 'Bibliography and Chronology of Halesowen,' which is about to be published by the Index Society.

ALTHOUGH the Free Library movement in suburban London and the provinces is making headway, in some cases much apathy exists. For instance, out of 18,708 voting papers issued in Kensington, only 9,742 votes were recorded; thus nearly half the voters did not take the trouble to express their opinions in either direction. There seems considerable difficulty in obtaining the 20,000^{l.} wanted in Marylebone.

YET another appeal for public money on educational grounds is about to be pressed on the attention of the Government. All industrial schools established since March 1st, 1872, about one-third of the total number, have had to be content with a grant of 3s. 6d. per head weekly for each child committed to their care, as against 5s. received by the older schools. The managers are revolting against this provision, and the subject was raised at a meeting of the Reformatory and Refuge Union on Wednesday last. It is proposed to send a deputation to the Home Secretary, and to take other steps to remove the grievance.

THE Grand Duchess Sophie of Saxony has entrusted the new publication of Goethe's collected works to a Weimar publisher. The first division of this edition will consist of the poet's literary works proper; the second division will be devoted to his scientific works; the third to his diaries, &c.; and the fourth will contain his voluminous letters.

THE Government of Bombay have recently issued some important resolutions on the subject of education in that presidency. The Final School Examination of the University is in future to be accepted as the test for admission to the lower grades of the public service. By handing over the Deccan College to the management of the Deccan Education Society further practical effect is to be given to the recommendations of the Education Commission as to reliance on public co-operation. The code of rules for grants in aid has been revised, with a view to relieving the pressure of work of educational inspectors by substituting a fixed grant in aid for one based upon results in detail.

THE death is announced of M. Charles Clément, the well-known writer on the *Débats*; also of Mr. Powell, of the *Bristol Mercury*.

THE chief Parliamentary Papers of the week have been the East India Home Accounts; a Return of Pauperism (England and Wales) for April; a Return of Proceedings of the Irish Land Commission to the 31st of May last; the Seventeenth Quarterly Report on the Forth Bridge; and reports on the trade of Eastern Roumelia and Portugal.

SCIENCE

Report of the Scientific Results of the Voyage of H.M.S. Challenger.—Zoology. Vols. XV. and XVI. (Published by Order of Her Majesty's Government.)

(First Notice.)

Of the 837 pages and fifty-seven plates which compose the fifteenth volume of this fine work, 756 pages and fifty-three plates are allotted to the 'Report on the Scaphopoda and Gastropoda' by Mr. R. Boog Watson. It

is remarkable that this title should be allowed to stand as it is, for it might imply that the editor of the work does not consider the Marseniadæ and the Nudibranchiata, and all the land and fresh-water forms which are treated of by other naturalists separately in other reports, as belonging to the Gastropoda. The title should have run "on certain of the marine Gastropoda," not "on the Gastropoda."

The Scaphopoda include the genus *Dentalium* (the tooth shells) and its allies. The molluscs forming these shells are peculiarly interesting to the zoologist, being ancestral in form, and possibly showing distant alliances to the cuttle-fish. The shells are familiar as strung as necklaces by savages and used by them as money. The genus *Dentalium* ranges from shallow water down to a depth of over 2,000 fathoms, whilst the other genera of Scaphopoda, *Siphonodentalium* and *Cadulus*, seem more restricted in their range, not having been obtained from a depth of over 1,125 fathoms.

It is difficult to ascertain from the report the general results attained, since most unfortunately it contains no table of bathymetrical distribution of the genera described, and in this respect differs from most of the reports on other groups as yet published. There is also no summary of results; and although there is a section headed "Geographical Distribution," this consists merely of a series of lists of the shells obtained together at each dredging station, without any digest whatever. The unfortunate reader must therefore wade through the entire mass of descriptions of species in order to discover what new general conclusions of real scientific interest relating to the fauna of the deep sea are embodied in the ponderous memoir. There is not even a list of the new genera and new species included within the memoir, but from a statement in the introduction it appears that the number of new species obtained by the Challenger from all depths was 547. By searching through the index for genera marked new it may be ascertained that there are five new genera described by the author in the memoir. Three of them belong to the Trochide—viz., *Gaza*, represented by a single species obtained off Fiji in 610 fathoms; *Bembix*, also with a single species only, from 565 fathoms off Japan; and *Basilissa* with seven species, occurring in various parts of the world, and ranging in depth from 15 fathoms to 2,050 fathoms. The other two new genera are *Volutidæ*—*Guivillea*, named after Sir Wyville Thomson, and *Provocator*, named after the ship. The animal producing the shell, on the shape of which the new genus *Guivillea* is created, is described as "a typical volute." *Guivillea alabastina* is a very fine volute shell, being 6*½* in. in height and of a fine alabaster colour and texture. It is remarkable that such a gastropod shell should exist in a depth of 1,600 fathoms off the Marion Islands in the South Indian Ocean. The animal has no trace of eyes.

The greatest depth at which a gastropod has been obtained is 2,650 fathoms. A representative of the genus *Stilifer*, the species of which are usually parasitic on echinoderms, was obtained at this depth in the South Atlantic. A short appendix to the memoir, by the Marquis de Folin, contains an account of the Cæcidae

and the description of a further new genus, *Watsonia*. The marquis uses Latin for his diagnoses, whilst Mr. Watson is content with English.

Dr. R. Bergh's contribution to the volume consists of only twenty-four pages and one plate. It deals with a family of gastropodous prosobranchiate mollusca, which the author has himself named Marseniadæ, having made the anatomy of the group the subject of special study. The memoir contains an admirable account of the structure of the members of the family and a conspectus of the genera. The Marseniadæ are snail-like in general form, with the shell concealed by the mantle. A marsenia of which the habits are known eats out round holes in compound ascidians and there deposits its ova. It shuts the cavities with special lids, which exhibit concentric rings, said to be produced by the rotatory movements of the animals.

Prof. Haddon, of Dublin, reports on the Polyplacophora or chitons. Fifteen genera and thirty species were obtained by the Challenger; seven of the species were new. The only really deep-sea chitons all belong to one genus, *Leptochiton*, which extends from shallow water to a depth of 2,300 fathoms, and ranges all over the world. Examples of the genus *Chiton* were not obtained from a greater depth than thirty fathoms. Most of the species described are from the shore region. No new form of marked zoological importance was obtained. The author had hoped to include in his report a sufficient account of the anatomy of the Polyplacophora to render possible a critical testing of the value of the late Dr. P. P. Carpenter's classification, which is the one he here adopts, from the accounts of it given by Mr. W. H. Dall, of Washington; but the Challenger material was not sufficient for the purpose, and he was prevented from carrying out his intention. It is pleasant to learn, however, that he has made progress towards this end. A new classification of the group, which shall include the evidence as to affinity to be derived from a careful study of the histological structure of the shell and its contained sensitive networks and eye-spots as well as of the general anatomy, is much to be desired, and will probably prove far more definite and satisfactory than any yet proposed.

Vol. xvi. is one of much more scientific importance and interest than its predecessor. It commences with Mr. W. E. Hoyle's report on the Cephalopoda, the cuttle-fish and their allies. Prof. Huxley at one time proposed to describe the Cephalopoda, but found that his engagements would not allow him to do so, and therefore only retained material for a memoir on the genus *Spirula*, on which he is now engaged. Mr. Hoyle, besides describing all the new forms obtained, gives an excellent revision of our knowledge of existing species of Cephalopoda up to the present time, thus rendering his contribution of peculiar value to practical zoologists. He has enjoyed the great advantage of the advice of Prof. Steenstrup, who gave up many hours in assisting him in comparing the Challenger specimens with those of the splendid collection at Copenhagen. The author promises shortly a supplement to the present part of the work, giving the results of his anatomical

investigations on such part of the material as has been available for the purpose. He terms the present part "exclusively systematic," but in reality it is far different from what might readily be thought to be intended by such a term. The work is admirable, and does him the highest credit.

The Cephalopoda are an extremely difficult group to deal with systematically, largely because the descriptions of new genera and species published have been, for the most part, vague and imperfect. Mr. Hoyle has given most excellent and full descriptions, with careful tables of measurements throughout, and has spared no pains in his researches into the literature of the subject and his criticisms of it. He was astonished to find the structure of the radula, as given in the majority of figures hitherto published, almost useless for systematic purposes: "It appears that in almost every radula each row of teeth differs a little from the one preceding it, and very often five, six, or even more rows must be examined before a given form repeats itself. Two rows of teeth from the same specimen will often differ as much as two from different species." Hitherto usually only one row has been figured, so the use of the radula in the classification of Cephalopoda is postponed till further researches can be made. In some species of *Cirroteuthis* the radula appears to be absent altogether.

The memoir commences with a provisional synopsis of recent Cephalopoda. The list contains 388 species in 68 genera and 4 families. Of these 32 species, 4 genera, and 1 family are new to science. About half the genera contain only one species each, whilst nearly half the species (170) belong to the three genera *Octopus*, *Loligo*, and *Sepia*. The memoir is illustrated by thirty-three very good plates.

For some reason unexplained the nautilus which was obtained alive by the expedition was not placed in the hands of the author, so he has nothing to say about it.

He gives a very useful list showing the geographical distribution of known species of Cephalopoda over seventeen regions into which the earth's surface is divided, almost in accordance with the regions adopted by Dr. Paul Fischer in his recent manual of the mollusca. He finds the Cephalopoda divisible into three principal groups: (1) the Pelagic, (2) the Littoral, (3) the Abyssal. All the species of any one genus belong with considerable constancy to the same group: thus *Octopus*, *Sepia*, and *Loligo* are typical littoral genera; *Cranchia*, *Omastrephes*, and *Onychoteuthis*, pelagic genera; whilst the *Cirroteuthidae* (the extraordinary forms with an umbrella-like membrane attached to their arms, the function of which is not known, possibly a swimming organ only, possibly a fishing net) he assigns to deep water on various evidence. However, as is the case with all actively swimming animals, the evidence as to depth is very conflicting and uncertain, but as usual we find certain shore genera, such as *Eledone* and *Octopus*, ranging down to over 1,000 fathoms. The largest cephalopod obtained by the Challenger, *Cirroteuthis magna*, although it is the largest example of the genus known, measures only a metre in length. None of the giant squids, *Architeuthis*, which grow to a length of sixty or seventy feet, was met with. The

most important new form obtained is *Amphitretus*, which has two separate openings into the branchial cavity instead of one (a condition occurring in no other cephalopod), and which is, therefore, placed in a new family, *Amphitretidae*.

CHEMICAL NOTES.

In a preliminary notice read before the Berlin Chemical Society, Curtius describes the preparation of a new compound of nitrogen and hydrogen, containing relatively less hydrogen than does ammonia, the only compound of these elements hitherto known. He terms it hydrazine or diamidogen. It has the composition expressed by the formula N_2H_4 , and is, therefore, the free form of the compound radicle amidogen, NH_2 , which in its time played a considerable part in chemical theory. This substance was obtained in the course of the investigation of the diazo-compounds of the fatty series with which Curtius has for some time been engaged. Ethyl diazoacetate when treated with a hot concentrated solution of caustic potash is converted into the potassium salt of a new diazo-fatty acid. This acid when heated with very dilute sulphuric acid yields diamidogen sulphate, from which the free base is obtained by heating with aqueous potash. Diamidogen is a gas; in small quantity its odour is scarcely noticeable, but in the concentrated state it has a very peculiar odour, which, however, but slightly resembles that of ammonia. When inhaled it attacks the mouth and nose violently. The gas is very soluble in water, it has a strongly alkaline reaction, and, if not diluted with too much air, gives white fumes with hydrochloric acid vapours. It readily unites with acids, forming salts, of which the sulphate and chloride are described; both crystallize well. Unlike ammonia, it shows considerable reducing power, reducing Fehling's solution even in the cold. On the whole, the discovery of this gas is the most striking chemical work that has been done for some time; further details of its properties and reactions will be looked for with great interest.

It is well known that at moderate temperatures the vapours of phosphorus and arsenic show so high a density as to indicate that in the gaseous state the molecule consists of four atoms instead of two only as with most of the other elements whose vapour densities have been determined. Victor Meyer and J. Mensching have now shown that these abnormal densities diminish at high temperatures; thus a considerable diminution is observed at a red heat, whilst at a white heat the densities are nearly, although still not quite, as low as would be the case if the phosphorus and arsenic molecules each consisted of two atoms only. They also obtained the very unexpected result that antimony in the gaseous state (compare *Athen.* No. 3102, p. 484) behaves quite differently from phosphorus and arsenic, inasmuch as it never exhibits a density so high as to correspond with four or even three atoms to the molecule. The molecule can, therefore, only contain either one or two atoms; but the difficulties in the way of a satisfactory determination have not yet been sufficiently overcome to decide which.

Redeterminations of atomic weights seem to be in great favour just now. Christensen as the result of numerous analyses of ammonium manganese fluoride has found the atomic weight of fluorine to be 19 if oxygen is taken at 16. Krüss and Nilson assign to the rare element thorium the atomic weight 231.87, a number pretty close to that generally adopted.

Germanium, the last new element, has generally been considered to be identical with ekasilicon, an element whose existence and properties were predicted by Mendeleeff from consideration of the periodic relations of the elements. Final proof of the correctness of

this assumption has now been given by Krüss and Nilson, who have prepared germanium tetrafluoride and potassium germanofluoride, and find their properties and crystalline forms to be identical with those given for the fluorine compounds of ekasilicon.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

Petermann's *Mitteilungen*, No. V., publishes a paper on the ethnology of British Columbia, by Dr. F. Boas (with a map); an article on the proposed Nicaragua Canal, by Dr. Polakowsky (with a map); a report on recent Danish explorations in Greenland, by Dr. Rink; and an account of the Kaap gold-fields, by P. Emmrich, a resident. No. VI. publishes paper on the zones of vegetation in Japan, which is written by a Japanese botanist, Mr. J. Tanaka, translated by a Japanese now studying at Munich, and accompanied by a map. It affords excellent evidence of the success with which science is being cultivated in Japan by native students. Mr. Tanaka distinguishes five zones, which he names after the most characteristic trees, viz., the zones of the *Ficus wightiana*, *Pinus thunbergii*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Abies veitchii*, and *Pinus cembra*. The editor, Dr. Supan, supplies an elaborate paper on the mean duration of the thermal periods (*Wärmeperioden*) in Europe, accompanied by three maps, which exhibit most strikingly the differences in the climatic conditions of eastern and western, southern and northern Europe. Dr. Junker's map and an elaborate map by Lupton Bey, recently received from Emin Pasha, are promised for an early number.

The *Scottish Geographical Magazine* in addition to Emin Pasha's account of an exploration of the Albert Nyanza, already referred to by us, publishes a paper on Bechuanaland and the adjoining territories, by Mr. John Mackenzie, the late Deputy Commissioner. The author evidently hopes great things from the recent extension of British power to the Victoria Falls of the Zambezi. The official northern boundary is formed by the 22nd parallel, but as the Bamangwato chief Khame has placed himself under the protection of England, and as his territory undoubtedly reaches to the Zambezi and to Lake Ngami, the actual extent of British territory is much greater than it is shown to be on official maps.

The Comte H. Meyners d'Estrey publishes an article on the New Hebrides in the *Revue de Géographie*.

We are accustomed to some irregularity of publication of certain continental periodicals, but feel bound to say that the patience of the subscribers to Signor Cora's *Cosmos* is being put to a severe trial. They are promised twelve "fascicoli" in every year, yet part i. of vol. ix., which ought to have been published in January, 1881, had the terms of the prospectus been adhered to, only reaches us now. It contains a summary of D. Ramon Lista's explorations in Eastern Patagonia (with a map), and a notice on the expected total eclipse of the sun by Prof. Woeikoff.

Mr. Stanford's "London Atlas," which was known to be preparing for publication for many years past, has at length seen the light, and is not likely to disappoint any reasonable expectations. The publisher, in a prefatory notice, very candidly informs us that certain maps by the late Mr. John Arrowsmith form the foundation of the present work. As a matter of fact, out of the ninety maps which go to make up this handsome volume, about forty are by the hands of the distinguished geographer named. The bulk of the maps are new, being published now for the first time, or having been published recently, although evidently designed with a view of ultimately finding a place in this atlas. The older maps have been revised as far as possible, and among the new ones there are several of the finest specimens of map engraving with which we are acquainted. We

would instance in this respect the maps of Palestine, of Cyprus, and of the Canadian North-West. If there is a feature which distinctly marks off this atlas from most of its rivals it is the ample representation accorded to the British Empire. Twenty-three maps deal with the British Isles, whilst twenty-five are devoted to the British colonies and possessions. Of the British islands we have not only the usual general maps, but also a stereographical, a hydrographical, a geological, a parliamentary, and a railway map, together with two congeries of climatological and statistical diagrams. Each of the three kingdoms is delineated on a map filling four sheets. Mr. Stanford deserves credit for bringing out so elaborate and costly a work in the face of foreign and native competition, and of the indifference of the public, who can hardly as yet be said to discriminate between good and bad maps. We trust he will be encouraged to persevere in the path he has chosen, so that this 'London Atlas,' like the German 'Stieler,' may come forth with each edition rejuvenated and improved, until, in the course of a few years, it shall have completely cast its skin, whilst still embodying the spirit and conscientious care which distinguished the late Mr. John Arrowsmith in all his undertakings. In its present condition the 'London Atlas' is inferior to the 'Royal' in unity of design, and among maps urgently needed is one of the United States on a larger scale than that given.

The Bremen *Geographische Blätter* publishes an article on the most ancient maps of Eastern Friesland, by Dr. Bartels, illustrated by a facsimile of Laurentius Michaelis's map of 1579.

SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL.—June 23.—Prof. J. W. Judd, President, in the chair.—Messrs. C. J. Buckland, H. R. Collins, J. Landon, C. D. Sherborn, and J. Udall were elected Fellows. —The following communications were read: 'On Nepheline Rocks in Brazil, with Special Reference to the Association of Phonolite and Foyaité,' by Mr. O. A. Derby;—'Notes on the Metamorphic Rocks of South Devon,' by Miss C. A. Raisin (communicated by Prof. T. G. Bonney);—'On the Ancient Beach and Boulders near Braunton and Croyde, in North Devon,' by Prof. T. M'Kenny Hughes;—'Notes on the Formation of Coal-seams, as suggested by Evidence collected chiefly in the Leicestershire and South Derbyshire Coal-field,' by Mr. W. S. Gresley;—'Note on some Dinosaurian Remains in the Collection of A. Leeds, Esq.: Part I., *Ornithopsis leedsi*; Part II., *Omosaurus*, sp.,' by Mr. J. W. Hulke;—'Notes on some Polyzoa from the Lias,' by Mr. E. A. Walford;—'On the Superficial Geology of the Southern Portion of the Wealden Area,' by Mr. J. V. Elsden (communicated by the President);—'Report on Palæo-botanical Investigations of the Tertiary Flora of Australia,' by Baron C. von Ettingshausen;—'On some New Features in *Pelanechinus coralinus*,' by Mr. T. Groom (communicated by Prof. T. M'Kenny Hughes);—and 'On Boulders found in Seams of Coal,' by Mr. J. Spencer.—A special general meeting was held, at which the Rev. G. F. Whidborne was elected a member of the Council, in the room of Mr. A. Champernowne, deceased.—The Society adjourned until the 9th of November.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—June 23.—Dr. J. Evans, President, and afterwards the Director, in the chair.—Mr. S. Clarke called the attention of the meeting to the fact that during the preparations for the thanksgiving service on June 21st in Westminster Abbey the ancient Coronation Chair had had a portion of the woodwork in front "restored," and had also been covered with a coat of dark brown "oak stain," thereby effectually defacing and obliterating the remains of the ancient decoration done by order of King Edward I. about 1300, by Master Walter the painter. Such treatment as this, he thought, ought not to pass unnoticed by the Society, and he therefore proposed the following resolution, which was put to the meeting and carried *nem. con.*: "That this meeting regrets that in the preparations for the thanksgiving service at Westminster Abbey the ancient Coronation Chair has been defaced with a coating of brown stain, and requests the Council to make inquiries whether something cannot be done to remedy the mischief, and to prevent the possibility of such outrages in the future."—Mr. Hailstone exhibited an interesting

example of a late Elizabethan mazer, engraved with a Tudor rose circumscribed "Ebrietias; quid non"; also a wooden bowl engraved with flowers, with an English inscription and the date 1610.—Mr. J. W. Trist exhibited some curious preserved eyes of cephalopods found with human mummies in Peru.—Mr. Rolls exhibited a silver hennin from Algiers.—Mr. Worsley communicated an account of the discovery of an interment of the bronze age on Ty-Clwyfau Farm, near Llanfairfechan.—Mr. H. Price read a paper descriptive of the opening of a large barrow of the bronze age in the parish of Colwinston, Glamorganshire, and exhibited two fine large urns and other antiquities found.

JUNE 30.—Dr. J. Evans, President, in the chair.—The President stated, with reference to the Coronation Chair, that in consequence of Mr. Plunket's reply to Mr. Howorth in the House of Commons he had written to Mr. Plunket, pointing out that he was afraid the actual condition of the chair must have been misrepresented to him, and asking him to examine and compare with the chair the Society's drawings, made in 1863, of the original decoration then remaining on it. Mr. Plunket, in reply, begged to be excused from expressing any opinion as to the relative condition of the Coronation Chair in 1863 and 1887, and stated that he had satisfied himself by personal examination that the chair is now practically exactly as it was a few weeks ago when handed over to the charge of his department. The President stated that Mr. Plunket's reply was not altogether satisfactory, as there was no doubt that the chair had been overlaid with some dark colouring matter, which had since been removed, with, he believed, but little injury to the original decoration. He had again written to Mr. Plunket pointing out this fact, and expressing the hope that he had seriously visited the person or persons who had misrepresented the matter to him, and also those who had tampered with the chair. He had also expressed to Mr. Plunket the Society's appreciation of the careful manner in which the monuments and structure of the Abbey had been treated by the Office of Works during the recent preparations.—Much strong feeling was expressed by several of the Fellows present at the treatment of the Coronation Chair.—The Rev. Dr. Cox, by the kindness of the Marquis of Hartington, exhibited two large pieces of mediæval needlework, forming the hangings of the altar rails at Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire. On examination these are found to be made of the orphreys and hoods of about twenty-five copes, some of them apparently being sets, and apparently all of English work.—Dr. Norris exhibited a beautiful bronze fibula and other antiquities found on Hamdon Hill.—Mr. Page read a paper on some Northumbrian palatinates and regalities; and Mr. Westlake communicated an account of some ancient paintings in some destroyed churches in Athens, illustrating his remarks by some excellent copies of the paintings lent for the occasion by the Marquis of Bute, for whom they had been made before the churches were destroyed.—The President announced that he and the Treasurer, as the Society's representatives, had had the honour of presenting on Monday to her Majesty the Queen, Patron of the Society, at Windsor, the loyal and dutiful address of the Society on the completion of the fiftieth year of her Majesty's reign.—The Society then adjourned till November 24th.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—July 6.—Sir P. Colquhoun, President, in the chair.—A paper was read by Mr. C. Leland 'On the Literary Training of the Memory and the Eye.'

STATISTICAL.—June 28.—*Annual General Meeting.*—Dr. T. G. Balfour in the chair.—The report of Council, the financial statements of the Treasurer, and the report of the auditors showing the continued progress of the Society, were taken as read, and adopted.—The first rules and by-laws of the Society under the royal charter recently granted were unanimously approved of as submitted by the Council.—The under-mentioned were unanimously elected to be the President, Council, and officers for the ensuing year: President, Right Hon. G. J. Goschen; Council, A. H. Bailey, Dr. T. G. Balfour, A. E. Bateman, C. Booth, S. Bourne, J. O. Chadwick, H. Chubb, Hyde Clarke, Major P. G. Craigie, F. Y. Edgeworth, T. H. Elliott, Prof. H. S. Foxwell, F. B. Garnett, J. Glover, R. Hamilton, F. Hendriks, N. A. Humphreys, J. S. Jeans, C. M. Kennedy, Dr. R. Lawson, Prof. Leone Levi, G. B. Longstaff, J. B. Martin, R. B. Martin, F. G. P. Neison, Dr. W. Ogle, H. D. Pochin, F. S. Powell, R. Price-Williams, and Sir R. E. Welby; Treasurer, R. B. Martin; Honorary Secretaries, J. B. Martin, A. E. Bateman, and Major P. G. Craigie; Foreign Honorary Secretary, J. B. Martin.

ZOOLOGICAL.—June 23.—Prof. W. H. Flower, President, in the chair.—Mr. Slater exhibited the

skin of a white-nosed monkey of the genus *Ceropithecus*, lately living in the Society's gardens, which appeared to be the *C. ascanias* of Schlegel, and had been obtained on the west shore of Lake Tanganyika; and a specimen of the pheasant from Northern Afghanistan lately described by him as *Phasianus principalis*,—and Dr. Günther a hybrid pheasant, between a male golden pheasant (*Phasianus pictus*) and a female Reeves's pheasant (*Phasianus versicolor*). Dr. Günther also exhibited a living hybrid pigeon, produced by a male white fantail pigeon and a female collared dove (*Turtur risorius*).—Letters and communications were read: from Mr. A. H. Everett, of Labuan, reporting the return of Mr. J. Whitehead from his expedition to Kina-Balu Mountain, in Northern Borneo, with specimens of some fine new birds, mammals, and other objects of natural history,—by Dr. Günther, on the zoological collections made by Capt. Maclear and the other officers of H.M.S. Flying Fish during a short visit to Christmas Island, which is situated in the middle of the Indian Ocean, south of Java, and had never been before visited by naturalists; the collection, which had been worked out by the staff of the British Museum, consisted of ninety-five specimens, amongst which were examples of two mammals, two birds, two reptiles, two molluscs, two Coleoptera, two Lepidoptera, and a sponge new to science,—by Mr. F. E. Beddard, on *Myrmecobius fasciatus*, in which he described a remarkable glandular structure stretched across the anterior region of the thorax of this marsupial,—by Prof. F. J. Bell, the sixth of a series of studies on the Holothuridea, the present paper containing descriptions of several new species belonging to the genera *Cucumaria*, *Bohadschia*, and *Holothuria*,—by Mr. A. Smith-Woodward, on the fossil teleostean genus *Rhaolepis*, giving a detailed description of this Brazilian fossil fish, which had been named and briefly noticed by Agassiz; three species were defined, and the author showed that the genus had hitherto been erroneously associated with the percoids and berycoids; he considered it an elopine clupeoid,—from Mr. J. W. Davis, on a fossil species of *Chlamydoelachus*; the author pointed out that some teeth from the pliocene of Orciano, Tuscany, figured and described by R. Lawley in 1876, were referable to this newly discovered genus of sharks; he named the fossil species *C. lawleyi*,—by Mr. F. E. Beddard, the fourth of a series of notes on the anatomy of earthworms, treating of the structure of *Cryptodrilus fletcheri*, a new species from Queensland,—from Mr. R. Trimen, on *Bipalium kennedyi*, of which worm he had obtained many specimens from gardens at the Cape,—by Dr. Günther, on two new species of fishes from the Mauritius, proposed to be named *Platycephalus subfuscatus* and *Latilus frontinectus*,—by Mr. Slater, on the wild goats of the Caucasus, in which he pointed out the distinctions between *Capra caucasica* and *C. pallasi*, which had been until recently confounded together,—by Mr. G. Boulenier, on the skull and cervical vertebrae of *Meiolania*, Owen (*Ceratophyllum*, Huxley), remains which he thought indicated a pleurodiran chelonian of terrestrial and herbivorous habits: the peculiar structure of the tail pointed to a distinct family (*Meiolaniidae*); and on a rare American fresh-water tortoise, *Emys blandingii*, Holbrook, which was shown to be a close ally of *Emys orbicularis* of European fresh waters, but to present distinct differential characters,—by Mr. A. Dendy, on the West Indian sponges of the family Cheilinidae, giving descriptions of some new species,—by Mr. H. Sebohm, on a new species of thrush from Southern Brazil, proposed to be called *Merula subalaris*,—and from Mr. R. Bowdler Sharpe, on a new species of the genus *Calypomena*, lately discovered by Mr. J. Whitehead on the mountain of Kina-Balu, in Borneo, which he proposed to name *C. whiteheadi*.—This meeting closed the session.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—July 4.—Mr. H. Pollock, Treas. and V.P., in the chair.—Mr. H. Davey and Mr. H. R. Graham were elected Members.

PHYSICAL.—June 25.—Mr. S. Bidwell, V.P., in the chair.—The following communications were read: 'Note on Magnetic Resistance,' by Profs. W. E. Ayrton and J. Perry. In the spring of 1886 the authors made experiments on the magnetic induction through horseshoe electro-magnets when excited by constant currents. The induction through different armatures and air spaces were also measured. The results show that for small exciting powers the law of parallel resistances is true for magnetism, taking leakage into account. From experiments made with two electro-magnets, the poles of which were placed at different distances apart, the authors conclude that the magnetic resistance of air is proportional to length, or to length plus a constant. A note on magnetic resistance was read before the Society on the 12th of March, 1887, by the same authors, describing experiments on two iron rings, one whole and the other divided by a radial saw cut. Since then the ex-

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periments have been repeated with great care by Col. Swinton and Mr. Sorrenson of the Central Institution. The resulting curves agree with those previously obtained. Experiments made with different air spaces, together with the above, seem to show a considerable "surface resistance."—"On Sounding Coils," by Prof. W. Stroud and Mr. J. Wertheimer. The paper describes experiments on coils and helices of wire, which emit sound when variable electric currents are passed through them. The pitch depends on the frequency of the current variations.—"On Comparing Capacities," by Mr. E. C. Rington.—"On the Effects of Change of Temperature in twisting or untwisting Wires which have suffered Permanent Torsion," by Mr. H. Tomlinson. The author's attention was directed to the subject by the note read by Mr. Bosanquet on the 14th of May.—"On Permanent Magnet Ammeters and Voltmeters of Invariable Sensibility," by Profs. W. E. Ayrton and J. Perry.

SHORTHAND.—June 29.—*Annual Meeting.*—Dr. Westby-Gibson, President for 1886-7, in the chair.—Mr. W. H. Gurney-Salter (Messrs. W. B. Gurney & Sons, shorthand writers to the Houses of Parliament) was elected President for the ensuing session.—A favourable report of the state of the Society's operations during the past year was presented.

PIPE ROLL.—July 1.—*Annual General Meeting.*—Mr. H. C. Maxwell Lyte, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. J. Greenstreet (Hon. Sec.) read the report of the Council for the financial year 1885-6. The accounts showed that after paying for three volumes, the Pipe Rolls for the eighth, ninth, and tenth years of Henry II., a balance of 10/- remained to be carried forward to the next year.—The report and accounts were adopted.—In moving the adoption of these reports, Mr. Lyte commented upon the comparatively large number of libraries announced in the report as having become subscribers to the Society. He observed that such accessions to the members of a society were always peculiarly welcome, because the support of private individuals was of necessity more or less fluctuating in its character, while, on the other hand, the co-operation of such institutions as All Souls' College, Oxford, and the Athenæum Club—to quote the first two names on the list of twenty-five accessions—once obtained, it was pretty certain that so long as the publications of the Society gave satisfaction their support would not be withdrawn.—Mr. H. S. Milman, in seconding the adoption, spoke at some length on the value of the evidence recorded on the Pipe Rolls, as illustrated in a paper read the previous evening before the Society of Antiquaries by Mr. Page, a member of the Pipe Roll Society. The speaker also enlarged upon the benefits likely to accrue to the Society by the decision of the Council to bring out not only a volume of our earliest and most valuable unpublished charters, but also another to include a large number of the Final Concords or Fees of Fines belonging to the reign of Richard I. This would give, he said, variety to the publications, and be likely to furnish matter of interest to a wider circle.—The Honorary Secretary stated that the University of Upsala had that morning applied to be enrolled among the subscribers to the Society.

Science Gossipy.

At a meeting recently held at Leeds, under the presidency of the mayor, it was resolved to invite the British Association to make that town the scene of its gathering in 1890.

An article by Prof. N. S. Shaler, entitled 'The Instability of the Atmosphere,' in the August number of *Scribner's Magazine*, will contain an illustration engraved from an instantaneous photograph (the first ever secured) of a tornado as it actually appeared a few days ago in America.

NEXT autumn will be issued Immanuel Kant's posthumous work, 'Vom Uebergange von den metaphysischen Anfangsgründen der Naturwissenschaft zur Physik,' with popular scientific comments by Dr. A. Krause.

The volume of the *Connaissance des Temps* for 1888 has recently been published. This annual has appeared regularly since the first volume was published by Picard in 1679, and the present is its two hundred and tenth issue. Many modifications, additions, and improvements have from time to time been made in it, several of them in recent years. The volume before us, however, is strictly similar to its predecessor, the only alteration in its data appearing to be that the

mean times of transit of the principal planets over the meridian of Paris are given with greater accuracy (to the nearest second) than heretofore.

FINE ARTS

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The HUNDRED and SEVENTH EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, 5 Pall Mall East, from Ten till Six.—Admission, 1s.; Illustrated Catalogue, 1s.
ALFRED D. FRIPP, R.W.S., Secretary.

ROYAL INSTITUTE of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—Piccadilly, W.—NOW OPEN from Nine till Six.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 1s.
ALFRED EVERILL, Secretary.

'THE VALE OF TEARS.'—DORE'S LAST GREAT PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the Doré Gallery, 25, New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Praetorium,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Pilate's Wife,' and his other great Pictures. From Ten to Six Daily.—Admission, 1s.

Ornamental Interiors, Ancient and Modern.—By J. M. Smith. Illustrated. (Crosby Lockwood & Co.)

ALTHOUGH there is some truth in Mr. Smith's criticisms of Mr. Ruskin, they are marred by such bad taste, bad temper, and unfairness that it would seem as if Mr. Ruskin has been guilty of ignorance of Mr. Smith's merits as well as of those of Mr. James Bruce Talbert, the author of a volume of decorative designs whose praises Mr. Smith sounds long and loudly. We have looked at the indexes of Mr. Ruskin's principal works, and failed to discover the name of Mr. Smith, or, at least, of the Mr. Smith who writes of their author:

"Notwithstanding the noise he has made in the world, we cannot find that he has had much practical influence as a leader of art."

With all respect for Mr. Smith, we do not think it is among the "Oxford Graduate's" strongest claims on the gratitude of posterity that he has made possible the existence of the body of clever persons who, like Mr. Smith, are ready to decorate our houses.

Mr. Smith begins with the beginning, and having discovered that Egyptian art was derived from Atlantis, "the nurse of the arts, the fosterer of civilization, and the colonizing power of the antediluvian world," proceeds to say that in the valley of the Nile the practice of art was uniform from one generation to another. Surely Mr. Smith, who considers Mr. Ruskin superficial and shallow, ought to be aware that modern discoveries have proved that—so far from Egyptian art being uniform from one generation to another—there were archaic, severe, decorated, and declining phases of Egyptian design. This is apart from the time when Greek or Roman influences are apparent. Mr. Smith seems to think that the difference between the simplicity and the richness of various Egyptian examples is due to the varying applications of one uniform style, and not to changes in its development and decline. The passage may have been intended to mean something else, but this is all we can make of it.

A more carefully written chapter deals with Greek decoration, but it is far from exact. We do not believe that "Apollo-dorus introduced light and shade," if by that phrase the author means the delineation of light and shade was unknown before the days of a sufficiently mythical master. Nor were staining, gilding, and painting confined to the "later work" of the Greeks. Again, in the sketch of Roman and Pompeian decoration Mr. Smith becomes confused when he speaks of "fresco" as a means of decoration. For instance, he says,

"No decorative works which are painted entirely in the fresco have been discovered in Pompeii, though the plain parts of the walls were often done in tinted fresco." We do not see what is the use of telling an inquirer that "stucco made with marble powder and chalk was used by the Romans for the enrichments of cornices, walls, and ceilings." They made use, for the decoration of flat surfaces, of an elegant kind of ornament, graceful in line and only slightly raised above the surface of the flat ground into which it retired in parts, producing a delicate effect, which was afterwards imitated with great success by the architects and designers of the Italian Renaissance.

We turn to the designs Mr. Smith admires, and look at his plate representing "a morning room and conservatory" (the conservatory is outside the window) in the "Neo-Roman style" designed by Mr. H. W. Batley. This is Roman only so far that flat pilasters are used to divide the walls into panels, and certain floating figures are introduced of distinctly Pompeian character, and therefore not entirely Roman. The rest of the design is overloaded with decorations, such as wreaths and naturalistic flowers and diapers, so that there is hardly an inch for the tired eye to rest on. Again, the frontispiece to the volume gives a staircase in the Jacobean style, which is by no means a model of pure taste, although it is by the Mr. Talbert whom Mr. Smith thinks a greater critic than Mr. Ruskin. It is a wilderness of confusing surface decorations, which even in the engraving are overdone. However, if half the panelling and the surface enrichments were omitted this staircase might pass muster as inoffensive.

What can be said in praise of a book which within the compass of four leaves takes us from the introduction of Christianity (the author means the supremacy of that faith) through Byzantine art, the Vikings, Ravenna, Venice, Saxon architecture, Henry VII.'s Chapel, the Norman period, the Chapter House of Salisbury Cathedral, Christ Church Oxford, Gray's Inn Hall, napkin panelling, and the Bayeux tapestry? The order of these subjects is Mr. Smith's, not ours. Between Bayeux and Baron Leys we can trace some faint relationship, if it be only alliterative. At last the reader reaches Mr. William Morris, who certainly deserves mention for his services as a decorative artist, although we are willing to admit with Mr. Smith that the much-talked-of "daisy pattern" is much overpraised. The influence of a certain cabinet designed, but not decorated, by Mr. W. Burges, is much overrated by Mr. Smith. That the decorations made the cabinet no one knew better than Burges. If Mr. Smith attributes much influence of a wholesome kind to Burges's early works we are quite at issue with him. Not a few of these artfully archaic designs were only fit to serve as warnings. Of his later work our opinion is very different; but we shall never forget a hideous bookcase the brilliant artist was specially proud of while he was still young. To the influence of Japanese art, especially when acting upon that strong national feeling of English people which inclines them to pure Gothic types, that immense improvement is to be attributed

which has distinguished the decorative design of the last decade. It is not to Mr. Talbert, to whom Mr. Smith seems to refer it, that the development of this influence is to be ascribed, but to the growth of luxury and education, and the increase of wealth. The direction it has taken is owing to the authority of half a score of men, such as Owen Jones, Rossetti, Stevens, W. Burges, Street, and others. Among their followers some living artists may be reckoned; these are Mr. Morris, Mr. C. L. Eastlake, Mr. Walter Crane, Mr. L. F. Day, Mr. C. Voysey, and Mr. Norman Shaw. Mr. Smith reckons Mr. Norman Shaw among the "Queen Anne" men; he might as well say the same of Mr. Robson or E. W. Godwin. When he says that the magnificent Hereford screen, an elaborate specimen of metal work, showed the adaptation of Gothic forms to wrought iron, we wonder what Street and Burges would have thought of this dictum. Of the fitness of Mr. Smith to write on "Ornamental Interiors, Ancient and Modern," the reader may judge when we tell him that not once in this large book have we found the name of Alfred Stevens.

NEW PRINTS.

We have received from Messrs. Boussod, Valadon & Co. an artist's proof on Japanese paper of a plate etched by M. Brunet-Debaines after a sunny and brilliantly coloured picture of "Venice," by M. Ziem—the Campanile and Ducal Palace, with shipping, gondolas, and other craft floating on the calm water in front. It is difficult to do more than suggest by means of the needle the brightness of such a scene. Only a careful and accomplished artist like M. Brunet-Debaines could succeed in producing anything like so agreeable a result as that before us, where softness is expressed as well as splendour. We think the hull and masts of the United States brig in front might have been darkened in tone without forfeiting any of their clearness or approaching the dead, monotonous blackness so frequent in inferior etchings, and thus have served to aid the effect of the picture, imparting additional brilliancy by contrast with the delicately etched sky and buildings. On the whole, it is an enjoyable and fine plate. From the same publishers we have received a proof of similar character of M. C. Waltner's etching of Rembrandt's portrait of Elizabeth Jacobs Bas, a picture recently bequeathed to the State Picture Gallery at Amsterdam by the late J. S. H. van Poll. We have already (*Athen.* No. 3104, p. 552) reviewed another plate by M. Arendsen from this capital picture, sent to us by Messrs. Obach & Co. M. Waltner's plate compares favourably as to firmness, freedom, and brilliancy with that of the younger etcher, fine as that is. Each is a desirable work. It is strange that two etchers should be at work simultaneously on the same picture.

Messrs. Boussod, Valadon & Co. have supplied us with a proof of a plate executed in photogravure from a picture by M. Kaemmerer, called "En Été," and representing a damsel partly undressed before bathing from a rocky nook on the beach of a watering-place, startled by the appearance near her seat of a gentleman and a lady in the costume of the Regency. The figure of the bather is daintily painted, pretty, and expressive; her surprise and distress tell the story well. She is graceful and modest, but her face is more expressive than beautiful. It is, on the whole, an agreeable, though not a profound or noble work, and exactly fitted for photogravure.

From the Arundel Society comes a chromolithograph, the first annual publication for 1887,

produced by Herr Frick, of Berlin, after a drawing by Herr Kaiser, continuing the series of transcripts from the frescoes of the Riccardi Chapel, Florence. The subject of the newly published plate is the journey of the Magi to Bethlehem as represented by a cavalcade of Florentines and foreigners winding along a devious and rocky path. One only of the heads has been, except conjecturally, identified; this is the wearer of a red cap, on the front of which is inscribed in gold "Opvs Benotii," doubtless the signature of Benozzo Gozzoli, the artist of the fresco. M. Yriarte has given names to several of the personages with more than a show of probability for a certain proportion of his suggestions. We fancy there is a considerable likeness between the face of the old man who is riding a bay horse in the front rank, and who wears a red cap and a green gown, and the person with a bulbous nose who appears with a little boy in Ghirlandajo's portraits, the bequest of M. Du Chatel, now in the Salle des Sept Mètres at the Louvre. He is attended by a negro Bowman in Gozzoli's fresco. Dry and opaque, the chromo-lithograph therein differs extremely from frescoes of any kind whatever; on the other hand, it is peculiarly interesting on account of the animation and expressions of the riders and the extreme quaintness of the landscape. As is the case with many of the Arundel Society's publications, we must needs be grateful for it, because there is no better copy of the fresco. As in previous cases, however, the unhappy Berlin artisan, or the draughtsman whose work he copied, has omitted to reproduce the clearness of Benozzo's painting, and left out all the effects of time and bad usage on its colour and surface. At best it is, like its forerunners, a mechanical copy on which, so far as it goes, we may rely.

SALE.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 2nd inst. the following, from various collections. Pictures: F. Hals, A Cavalier, holding a glass, with a lady and dog and attendant, 194*l.* E. De Witt and Terburg, Interior of Cortz Kirch, Amsterdam, 493*l.* F. Guardi, A Pair of Views near Venice, with ruins and figures, 110*l.* Sir A. More, Portrait of the Artist, in black dress and ruff, 257*l.* Raffaelino del Garbo, A Lady, in crimson and black dress, 236*l.* Sir J. Thornhill, Sir Robert Walpole, in his robes, seated at a table, 262*l.* Zoffany, A Cock-Fight in India, 85*l.* W. Marlow, Fish Street Hill and Ludgate Street, a pair, and the engravings, 336*l.* Pourbus, A Lady, in maroon and gold dress, and black cloak, 11*l.* Coello, A Lady, in rich dress, with jewels and lace collar, 7*l.* Van Dyck, Lucy Percy, Countess of Carlisle, in black and white dress, 189*l.* Honthorst, Tobit anointing his Father's Eyes, 7*l.* Drawing: J. M. W. Turner, Kirkstall Abbey, with the waterfall, 53*l.*

Finz-Art Gossipy.

On Tuesday Mr. Plunket, being further questioned about the Coronation Chair, admitted that it had been stained, which he denied a fortnight ago; and he said, as we anticipated he would, that the stain had been removed without injury to the chair. With respect to the "restoration" of the chair, he said that "certain missing portions were of necessity for the purpose of the recent ceremony replaced by new work." The missing portions are some parts of the old tracery which in the course of centuries have been broken away, and which were replaced by bits of modern stuff stuck on with the varnish; and the statement that such "restoration" was "of necessity" shows the more how unfit those for whom Mr. Plunket speaks are to have the manipulation of any monument of historical or artistic value. If the chair had been defective in any structural part, some repair would have

been "of necessity" to fit it for use. But it was sound and good, and much more substantial than the gimcrack modern seats which the Lord Chamberlain set round it for the use of the royal family. The defects are simply those incident to the chair's antiquity, which, in these days at least, is itself as grand an ornament as can adorn a monarch's throne; and we do hope that never again will any one be allowed to smother it with modern trash and varnish.

MR. PLUNKET was a little premature when he said that the Dean of Westminster and the Society of Antiquaries have expressed themselves "perfectly satisfied" with the manner in which the monuments and structure of Westminster Abbey have been treated by the Office of Works. We believe that it would be truer to say that satisfaction has been expressed that more care has been taken to protect the structure and monuments than was done at some former time. We must wait for the removal of the scaffolding before it can be known whether that care has been so great as it ought to have been.

A DESCRIPTIVE catalogue of the collection of tapestry-woven and embroidered Egyptian textiles recently purchased by the South Kensington Museum has been compiled and will be shortly issued. The introduction, briefly dealing with the history of those specimens made between the first and ninth centuries A.D. at Akhmin, in Upper Egypt, has been written by Mr. Alan Cole, who for the last two years has been engaged in writing a catalogue of the tapestries and embroideries in the South Kensington Museum.

EVERY lover of Chinese and Japanese ceramic art will be grateful to Mr. Salting for an opportunity of studying his magnificent collection, now admirably displayed in twelve large upright cases on the east side of the North Court at the South Kensington Museum. The 648 examples are all more or less representative. In the first case will be found a group of vases and bottles, including tall vases with black grounds and panels of white and red may on white grounds, of great merit and rarity, besides plates and bowls. In the second case is a garniture of Imari vases, of noble dimensions, enriched with peonies painted in enamels on white grounds, and various fine pieces of the same fabrique. The third case contains another Imari garniture of five examples of a fine description, two superb vases with pink panels painted as above, set in black grounds, and decorated with flowers of great beauty. A square bottle comprises four panels of flowers of exquisite delicacy, charmingly arranged. In Case IV. are some marvellous pieces of egg-shell porcelain, and some lovely lamp-shades of this frail material, finely decorated with floral patterns and extremely pure in colouring. There are, too, some remarkable cups and saucers. Case V. is almost filled with vases and bottles, including an extraordinarily rare Japanese vase with a dove-coloured ground, in which are set panels of white enriched with peonies. Here may be seen the curious shell-shaped basin enriched with flowers and two cocks enamelled in relief with brilliant colours, and very spiritedly drawn. The Museum possesses the helmet-shaped ewer which is the legitimate companion to Mr. Salting's basin. In Case VI. are two bottles of the famous powdered blue. One of them is enriched with flowers painted in blue on a gold ground and with rare delicacy. The other has, on a blue ground, turbulent waves painted in gold with amazing spirit and force, as well as fishes painted in red. In the same case are some plates enamelled in green and red on white grounds. Case VII. holds bottles of powdered blue enriched with gold, as well as others of the so-called "green family," and a precious hawthorn jar of great interest. Case VIII. is filled with a noble collection of blue and white Nankin porcelain, including two pairs and one "hawthorn" jar, specimens bearing rare

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marks from 1468 to c. 1600 of the Ching-Hwa and Kang-He varieties. Case IX. contains more blue and white vases and bottles, and a jar of powdered blue with white panels. In Case X. are blue and white vases and bottles, and two exceptionally fine bowls. In Case XI. is a jar painted in blue with ladies in interior scenes; bottles and vases, including two sets with tiger-lily patterns, and five jars with representations of wild beasts. Case XII. is reserved for examples of full and deep colours, among which are melon-shaped vases of *sang de boeuf*; pilgrim's bottle of the same colour; a very tall vase of elegant shape of pale red or pigeon's blood colour; splashed bottles with crimson grounds; and turquoise blue vases of great richness and finish.

THE Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities, British Museum, is now enriched with several choice newly bought examples of various sorts, among them a beautiful vase of red terra-cotta in the shape of an alabaster, about six inches high, signed with the name of the potter "Pasiades," dating from about 450 B.C., and decorated with figures of maenads painted in white over the red clay ground. The draperies are filled in with a delicate semi-transparent yellow pigment. The figures are finely and freely drawn, and designed with much energy and grace. With this may be reckoned an extremely choice lecythus, dating c. 420 B.C., painted in reddish orange on a black ground. On it there is a group of Oedipus who has slain the Sphinx near a pillar (intended to represent the temple of Apollo), and Castor and Pollux. Apollo himself is at one side. There is also on the lecythus a figure supposed to be that of Aeneas. This object, like the others, came from Arsinoe, in Cyprus. The third article of great interest is a small armlet or ring of silver on which is placed, as if walking on its outer surface, a fly of solid gold, not exquisitely modelled and finished after nature. It seems to be such as is referred to by Lucian in his *'Encomium Musæ'*, where he says the object is known to every one. A number of oblong plates from a belt of silver, with pretty bells of the same metal pendent from their lower edges, come next. Each plate is about 2 by 2½ in., hinge-jointed to its neighbour, and the belt is embossed with groups in the Assyrian style, representing Orpheus holding two goats, alternating with two griffins seated back to back, a well-known Assyrian design. There is likewise an armlet of silver, decorated with goats browsing and lions, much as we see them in Asiatic Greek work of about the sixth century B.C.

THE report of the Parliamentary Committee appointed to consider the proposals for the new Admiralty and War Office buildings will be welcomed by those who, like ourselves, deplored the choice of the designs of the Messrs. Leeming not only on account of their tame and juvenile style, but because of their defective arrangements for ventilation and lighting. The Committee has decided to recommend the abandonment of the schemes of demolition and rebuilding, and satisfied itself "that, by making additions to the present Admiralty, all the requirements of that department may be provided for, while, including some repairs and improvements to the existing building, the work may be done at a moderate cost and within two or three years." The report states that a very large reduction of expense for buildings would thus be secured; and to this must be added, as against the cost of erecting a new War Office, the value, estimated at £266,000/, of the portions of the Spring Gardens site which would be preserved after providing for the suggested additions to the Admiralty and for the opening of the Mall into Charing Cross. "We therefore recommend that the entire official staff of the Admiralty and War Office respectively should be each, as far as possible, placed under one roof; and that the two

buildings should be situated at no great distance from each other." "And we find that the main buildings of the Admiralty may with advantage be retained." We, in April of last year (*Athenæum* No. 3051, p. 528), soon after the appointment of the Committee, urged the desirability of not destroying the structure associated with Nelson, Anson, Hawke, Howe, and St. Vincent, and the distinguished Secretaries of the Admiralty during whose terms of office much of the naval glory of this country was won. It is the centre of one of the most successful activities of our race. We deplore the proposal of the Committee to open the Mall to vehicular traffic, because the comparative quiet and real freshness of St. James's Park cannot be retained if this fancy is gratified. We know how great has been the injury inflicted on Paris by the opening of the Jardin des Tuilleries to cabs and omnibuses, which now rattle where a beautiful piece of greenery was available to foot passengers only. In fact, the convenience and pleasure of the public on foot have been sacrificed in Paris to the demands of riders and drivers. The Mall, inasmuch as it is more precious to London than the Jardin ever was to Paris, ought to be jealously protected.

At the annual meeting of the Midland Union of Natural History Societies, held on Wednesday at Malvern, the Darwin Medal, which is this year set apart for archeology, was awarded to Mr. Edward W. Badger, M.A., of King Edward's High School, Birmingham, for his paper on "The Monumental Brasses of Warwickshire."

THE forthcoming number of the *Journal of Hellenic Studies*, which will be ready in a few days, will contain what is henceforth to be a permanent feature, viz., a critical bibliography of recent archeological publications, and reports by Mr. Penrose and Mr. Ernest Gardner upon excavations in Greece during 1886-87, and the discoveries in sculpture and epigraphy during the same period. Among the original articles may be mentioned "Excavations in Caria," by Mr. W. R. Paton; "Iasos," by Mr. E. L. Hicks; "The Homeric Talent," by Prof. Ridgeway; and "Recently Discovered Archaic Statues," by Mr. Ernest Gardner.

THE July number of the *Genealogist*, which should be ready next week, will appear in a new heraldic cover, of which the design was prepared from a sketch made by York Herald (Mr. A. Scott Gatty, F.S.A.).

ILLUSTRATIONS of the "Art Treasures in the National Goethe Museum at Weimar" will be issued, with the sanction of the Grand Ducal Government, under the direction of the court photographer Herr Held. The first part of this *édition de luxe*, which is to consist of ten parts and to contain sixty photo-engravings accompanied with explanatory text, will appear next autumn.

THE death is announced of the German architect K. E. Sonntag.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

COVENT GARDEN.—"I Puritani," "Faust," "Semiramide." HER MAJESTY'S.—"Mefistofele." "La Traviata." DEBRY LANE.—"Carmen," "Don Giovanni," "Aida." PRINCES' HALL.—Josef Hofmann's Recitals. ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Richter Concerts.

THERE has been nothing of commanding interest at any of the opera-houses of late, and our remarks this week will, therefore, be little more than a bare record of facts. That most tiresome of all operas "I Puritani" survives because of the brilliant opportunities it affords for the display of vocal skill; but it is difficult to regard the part of Elvira as one of Madame Albani's best. She was never a complete mistress of her scales, and

her shake has become singularly harsh and unpleasant. Mdlle. Valda's ambition in undertaking the part of Marguerite in "Faust" was fairly justified by results. Indeed, her singing was better than might have been expected, and her acting, if not remarkable, was intelligent and in good taste. In neither of these performances was there anything else to call for notice. The performance of "Semiramide" on Tuesday was creditable as regards the female artists, Madame Cepeda in the title rôle, and Madame Scalchi as Arsace; but a worse representative of the part of Assur than M. Lorrain cannot be imagined. The vices of the modern French school of singing are rendered terribly prominent when Rossinian opera is revived, while at the best the method has nothing to recommend it.

Boito's "Mefistofele" is one of those masterpieces for the production of which we were first indebted to Mr. Mapleson, and he has done well to revive the work, though the present performance cannot be described as first rate. Madame Trebelli, who resumes the dual part of Martha and Pantalis, is the only member of the original fine cast who remains. Mdlle. Osolio, who appears as Margherita and Elena, is an artist of more than ordinary intelligence, and will probably be heard of again. Her rendering of Gretchen's death scene—which Boito has treated with such marked originality—is sympathetic and even impressive. Signor Oxilia is just tolerable, and no more, as Faust; and Signor Abramoff cannot do justice to the part of Mephistopheles. The performance of "Traviata," in which Madame Patti appeared, and at which the prices were trebled, does not call for more in this place than a word of protest against the infatuation of the public. No one would venture to deny that Madame Patti is the greatest vocalist of her generation, but it does not show much artistic taste to prefer one eminent performer with poverty-stricken surroundings to a perfect ensemble. That it should be so constitutes the greatest difficulty in the path of operatic reform.

At Drury Lane we continue to have magnificent performances, not surpassed or even approached by any others in London during the last dozen years. The cast of "Carmen" is familiar save as to the Michaela of Miss Marie Engle, which is a remarkably charming embodiment. The young American artist is making rapid improvement. Mr. Harris lost no time in dismissing the vibratory singers who failed during the first week of his season; and in "Don Giovanni" the performance is much improved by the Donna Anna of Madame Crosmond and the Zerlina of Mdlle. Arnoldson. But he still lacks a good Ottavio, Signor de Lucia being the one weak member of the cast. Postponements are always damaging, and Mr. Harris's production of "Les Huguenots," if it ever takes place, cannot fail to suffer through the repeated disappointments. "Aida" was repeated on Wednesday, with Madame Crosmond in the leading part and Signor Runcio as Radames. The performance was given without rehearsal, and showed a great deal of earnestness, though, as a matter of course, it was rough and by no means calculated to enhance the reputation of a very remarkable undertaking.

On Monday afternoon the gifted child pianist Josef Hofmann performed an even greater feat than he had accomplished at the Philharmonic Concert a few days previously. We say this because Beethoven's Concerto in c minor is generally acknowledged to be a more difficult and advanced work than the master's No. 1, and the rendering of the accompaniments on a second piano does not diminish the arduousness of the solo part. But the interpretation was in every respect just as remarkable; not only was the execution faultless, but the inner meaning of the composer's ideas was brought out, especially in the slow movement, in a way that would have done credit to an adult pianist. There is, however, a less pleasant side to the picture. A pianist after playing a long concerto is rarely called upon for more than one or two small items later on in the same programme. But little Hofmann had almost immediately to resume his seat and work through a programme containing no fewer than eight more pieces. Such an ordeal at any time, and especially on such a day as last Monday, is nothing short of cruelty. There is no need to apologize for using strong language; genius is the property of mankind, not of individuals, and we not only entreat, we have a right to demand, that Josef Hofmann shall not be called upon to perform tasks which can have but one result—the premature decay of mind and body.

One of the most successful seasons of the Richter Concerts came to an end on Monday with a programme which filled St. James's Hall to its last seat. The rendering of the 'Tannhäuser' Overture under the Viennese conductor is well known; but on this occasion it was finer than usual, owing to the improvement in the strings, and gave rise to a remarkable demonstration. To musicians the most interesting item was Bach's fine Magnificat in D, with the masterly additional accompaniments of Robert Franz. This is one of the many works by the old composers which cannot be performed—and were never intended to be performed—exactly as they were written down, and too much praise could not be given to Herr Franz for the skilful, yet modest filling up of the original meagre score. Nothing has been added but what is in thorough harmony with the manner and method of Bach, and only unpractical pedants can object to additions which render the performance of a masterpiece possible. The Magnificat had been well rehearsed, and went smoothly and with spirit as regards the choruses. The soloists were Miss Annie Marriott, Miss Lena Little, Mr. Bernard Lane, and Mr. Watkin Mills; and the same took part in the performance of Beethoven's 'Choral' Symphony which followed. It is in the highest degree significant to learn that while other enterprises have languished this season from excess of competition and other causes the Richter Concerts were never more firmly established in public favour than at present. The series just concluded has been of exceptional interest, and the new manager, Mr. N. Vert, as well as Herr Richter, may be congratulated upon the success achieved.

Musical Gossip.

THE pupils of the Hyde Park Academy of Music gave their second concert of the present season at the Steinway Hall on Thursday afternoon with an excellent programme, including as one of its chief items Reinecke's cantata 'Little Rosebud.' Mr. H. F. Frost conducted.

A MORNING concert was given at St. James's Hall last Wednesday in aid of the funds of St. Pelagia's Home for Destitute Girls.

THE Royal College of Music gave an orchestral concert on the 30th ult., at which highly creditable performances were given of Schumann's Symphony in B flat, No. 1, and Cherubini's overture 'Les Abencerrages.' Mr. Henry Holmes conducted.

A PIANOFORTE recital was given by Mdlle. Hermann at the Princes' Hall on Friday last week, her programme containing examples by fourteen composers.

BRAHMS'S Sonata in F for piano and violoncello, Op. 99, was repeated at Mr. Halle's concert on Friday last week, and the programme likewise contained Spohr's beautiful Trio in F, Op. 123, for the first time, Beethoven's Variations in C minor, and Schubert's Fantasia in C for piano and violin, Op. 159.

We regret to have to announce the death on the 1st inst., after a few days' illness, of Mr. J. B. Welch, one of the best-known and most successful teachers of singing in London. Mr. Welch, who studied singing in Italy under Signor Gaetano Nava, was one of the principal professors at the Guildhall School of Music, where his loss will be severely felt.

MR. LINDSAY SLOPER died on the 3rd inst. at the age of sixty-one. Formerly well known as a pianist through his frequent appearances at concerts, Mr. Sloper had of late years principally devoted himself to tuition.

A COMPLETE orchestra of Javanese musical instruments has just been presented to the museum of the Paris Conservatoire by M. van Vlenten, the Minister of the Interior for the Dutch Indies. The current number of *Le Ménestrel* contains a most interesting and detailed account of these curious instruments.

ONE of the best-known and most distinguished of Italian musical critics, Dr. Filippo Filippi, died suddenly of apoplexy at Milan on the 25th ult., at the age of fifty-four.

DRAMA

Dramatic Gossip.

THE 'Maske of Flowers,' presented at Gray's Inn on Thursday afternoon as a Jubilee entertainment, attracted a brilliant audience, and though, as was to be expected, a little dull, constituted a pretty and an attractive spectacle, to which we hope to recur.

AN extra performance of 'Olivia' was given on Saturday at the Lyceum by command of the Prince of Wales, who, with various royal guests, was present. As 'Faust' had been played in the afternoon, the ordeal at midsummer was sufficiently trying.

UPON the transference of 'Held by the Enemy' from the Princess's to the Vaudeville, the part of the heroine, vacated by Miss Alma Murray, was taken by Miss Kate Rorke. In the scene of appeal for the life of her unloved lover Miss Rorke displayed much force and intensity, and her entire representation had much girlish beauty. Mr. C. Overton replaced Mr. W. Rignold as the brigade surgeon whose duties eclipse those of a general officer, and Mr. F. Thorne succeeds Mr. Calhaem as the sentimental negro Uncle Rufus. Mr. Charles Warner displays as the hero his usual explosive energy; Mr. Gardiner is still the Confederate spy; and Mr. Yorke Stephens and Miss Annie Hughes

render very mirthfully the comic scenes, which in the smaller house are seen to greater advantage. In spectacular respects the play necessarily suffers from the change of house.

'Dawn,' a four-act drama by Messrs. George Thomas and Frank Oswald, produced last week at the Vaudeville, is a weakly written imitation of 'Jim the Penman.' Miss Houlston acted with some tenderness, Miss Illington was acceptable as a *soubrette*, and Mr. Bassett Roe as a villain gave a clever imitation of Mr. Beerbohm Tree. Mr. Oswald also appeared in his own piece.

TWO new plays, one a version of the 'Adelaide' of Hugo Müller, the second from an undetected source, were produced by Mr. Wm. Poel, by whom they were adapted, on Tuesday afternoon at the Vaudeville. Both are in one act. The earlier piece deals with an incident in the life of Beethoven, who, in solitude and deafness, was visited by a gentlewoman to whom he had previously been affianced. 'Mrs. Weakly's Difficulty' is a fairly amusing farce, the heroine of which was played by Miss Minnie Bell. Mr. Poel played in the two pieces. Want of preparation interfered with the success of the experiment. Sir Charles Young's domestic sketch, 'Drifted Apart,' the idea of which is taken from a poem by the Laureate, was also given by Miss Cowen and Mr. Eric Lewis.

AT the Prince of Wales's on Tuesday afternoon 'London Assurance' was revived, with Miss Grace Huntley as Lady Gay Spanker.

MR. TOOLE'S season at Toole's Theatre finished on Friday night with the benefit of the actor, when he appeared in 'The Serious Family' and 'The Steeplechase,' and delivered an address to the public. Mr. Toole will start at once on his customary country tour.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE has definitely taken the Haymarket Theatre, at which in September next 'The Red Lamp' will be revived. When the run of the piece is over, a drama from the pen of Mr. Robert Buchanan will be mounted. The question of alteration of the pit has been shelved, and Mr. Tree will make arrangement for the convenience of those who, relying on misleading identification of the pit of to-day and that of a century ago, claim to be arbiters of the fate of plays.

NEXT Saturday the season at the St. James's will close, and 'Lady Clancarty' will be temporarily withdrawn.

ACTING on the advice of Mr. Charles Wyndham the representation by the Dramatic Students of 'The Favourite of Fortune' has been postponed until September. The next performance will consist of 'The Taming of the Shrew.' This obtained the majority of votes over 'The Two Noble Kinsmen,' which was also discussed.

MISCELLANEA

"Uprise."—Once more attention has to be drawn to the fact that "uprise" is a noun and not a verb. In his admirable monograph on Keats, just published, Mr. Colvin has either favoured the verb heresy, or has allowed his printer to trifling with him. In a very fresh and instructive passage (p. 28), illustrating the two styles of heroic couplet, he quotes from Chaucer's 'Knightes Tale' the description of Emely gathering flowers, the fourth line of the quotation standing thus:—

And in the garden as the sonne uprise.
One letter changed makes the line correct: it should be *at*, as Mr. Colvin, no doubt, will be ready to admit when his attention is thus called to a manifest overlook. Meanwhile, purchasers of one of the best books in the valuable series to which it belongs will easily rectify the mistake for themselves, and the printer may be on guard for next edition.

THOMAS BAYNE

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. R. E.—J. C. C.—W. H. B.—F. H. D. M.—T. F.—received.

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